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CALENDAR

OF THE

MADRAS DESPATCHES

1754—1765

31742

BY

HENRY DODWELL, M.A. (OXON), F.R. HIST. S.

(Late Curator of the Madras Record Office)

MADRAS

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS

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PREFATORY NOTE.

This is the second volume of the Calendars of the Madras Despatches prepared by Mr. H. Dodwell, the late Curator of the Madras Record Office. He left service before the printing of this volume could be taken up and so the work of seeing it through the press has devolved on me. An index has been added.

EGMORE,
21*st November* 1929

A. V. VENKATARAMA AYYAR,
Curator, Madras Record Office.

THE MADRAS DESPATCHES, 1754-1755.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO [GEORGE PIGOT, ETC.] COUNCIL AT MADRAS. LONDON, NOVEMBER 29, 1754. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 58, *pp.* 27—58 (*original* 32 *pp.*).]

Cite despatches of the previous season, dated November 28, December 19, 1753, January 23, 31, February 15, March 2, 13 and 15, and April 3, 1754. Acknowledge the receipt of general letters of April 19, October 29, 1753, February 7 and March 9, 1754; of separate letters of April 15, 18, October 29, 1753, and March 9, 1754; of letters from Brohier, dated April 18, October 27, 1753 and March 8, 1754; from Colonel Lawrence, dated September 14 and 22, 1753, January 20, February 25, 1754; and from Lieutenant Colonel Scott, dated August 13 and September 18 and 21, 1753.

Have engaged 13 ships for the season, of which 3 are exclusively for the Coast and Bay service and 3 for the Coast and China. The Coast and China ships, the *Bombay Castle*, *Rhoda* and *Prince of Wales* are now being despatched. The *Hardwicke* will bring wine from Madeira. The other two Coast and Bay ships, the *Duke of Dorset* and the *Eastcourt*, will sail about January 18. Appointment of supracargoes for the China ships. The Secret Committee consists of Roger Drake, Richard Chauncy, William Mabbott and Jones Raymond. The Coast and Bay ships of this season are not to carry any iron as kintlage, but ships of previous seasons now in India may take iron kintlage, full 16 tons for every 100 tons of bale goods, unless otherwise specified in the charterparty. Private silver, coral, etc., wrongly landed at Madras or Bengal may be reconsigned at the freighters' risk. The Madras cargoes should be landed from the China ships without delay so that they may reach their destination before the ships of any other nation. They are not to touch at any Straits ports. Redwood or other kind of cargo should be laded and immediately paid for by the supracargoes. 300 pipes of wine will be sent from Madeira by the *Hardwicke*, half for Madras, and half for Bengal; but, if needed for the use of the Company's servants, Madras may retain out of the Bengal stock anything extra not exceeding 50 pipes. Ships' captains and their officers are allowed the usual indulgence of 20 pipes.

The Madeira ship is to carry all bullion and rupees that can be spared to Bengal. Expect a ship to be laded home in September or October. Any ship, that cannot be returned the season of her arrival, must be let out for freight or otherwise profitably employed. Repeat the instructions regarding the employment of the transports, the *Kent*, *London* and *Britannia*, as it is supposed that they cannot have arrived in time to be despatched under the earlier instructions.[1] Are sending out a ship for trade at Limpao or Chusan. If she cannot be returned home in 1755, she will be returned to India, either with gold for Madras if obtainable at 1 tale of gold of 93 touch for 11 tales of silver, or with gruff goods for Malabar. All gold so sent is to be landed at Madras and replaced by silver of equal value.

Have consigned much gold and silver, besides woollen goods, copper, lead, iron, etc. (details in invoices). Are concerned to note that large quantities of woollen goods remain unsold both in Madras and Bengal. This year's supply is much smaller than in the past three years. Send to Bengal 333, to Bombay 1,130, to Persia 240, and to Madras 500 bales. The Council is to exert itself to sell as much as possible and assist the other presidencies. Under former orders woollen goods not to be sold at less than 15 % on the invoice price. Now permit their being put up at the invoice price which in the case of coarse cloth and long ells is much lower than in previous years. Usual orders about forwarding silver to Bengal. Suggest that the 2 twelve-pounders and 10 six-pounders with carriages sent out with Watson should be bought for the Company's use on the return of His Majesty's forces to England. Are complying with the indent for iron plates for tires for the wheels of field carriages, and iron trucks for carriages of different sizes such as are used in His Majesty's service. The Engineer and artillery officers should be consulted about and should countersign indents for military stores. Col. Scott reported that the small arms in store at Fort St. David were only such as are sent to the Guinea Coast. These must be the remains of the Buckaneer guns sent to Madagascar.[2] The large supply of small arms sent subsequently must have obviated any necessity for their use. The Council should not indent for cumbersome goods needed only for sale. 300 bales of woollen goods are sent to Madras to be forwarded to Bombay.

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[1] See *Calendar of the Madras Despatches*, 1744-55, pp. 228 and 231.

[2] See *Calendar of the Madras Despatches*, 1744-55, p. 159.

'The small returns made for the great consignments of treasure and goods sent to your presidency for some years past are most sensibly felt by us.' The investment of 1753 has been a great disappointment, though all allowance has been made for the disturbed state of the country. Urge the necessity for more exertion in the matter to compensate the 'vast sums most unhappily sunk in military operations.' If necessary, a ship may be sent to Sumatra for pepper. Expect 2,000 tons of saltpetre from the three presidencies during 1755. This may give loading for a ship or two; the charterparty tonnage of ships must be made up with a larger proportion of saltpetre—50 tons and more on each ship, provided they are taken at low freight.

Negotiations with the French have continued but without result. Repeat their directions regarding a provisional treaty in India. Agree that Dupleix' demands at the Sadras Conference were too unreasonable to be accepted, but it is hoped that his successor Godeheu will not adopt 'his ambitious and destructive schemes.' Are highly displeased at the Council's presumption in dissolving the Private Committee appointed in 1751, merely owing to personal pique and prejudice. At the present crisis such a committee is necessary; therefore appoint one with more members and with larger powers. Regret that the misunderstanding between Saunders and Lawrence still continues.[1] It is highly prejudicial to military affairs and negotiations with country powers. Implore them as men of honour to lay aside all their private piques. In all military affairs, especially in the appointment of officers, the Commander-in-chief must always be the best judge, and due regard must be had to his recommendations. Much regret Lawrence's ill health. Should he be obliged to retire, Colonel Scott is to succeed him as Commander-in-chief. Lawrence will doubtless continue to offer his advice in military matters. The Negrais settlement is proving expensive and troublesome and is now said to be unsuitable for the shelter, building and repairing of ships. However, some who know the place assert that it may turn to be of great advantage if maintained; and Admiral Griffin is said to have found it a very convenient place of anchorage. Direct that a full report be made and that, if the settlement is not thought likely to succeed, a bare possession is to be kept of it without much expense, in order to keep it out of the hands of the French.

[1] Particularly over military patronage, see Love's *Vestiges*, II, 486—487.

All Company's instructions on the subject of fortifications should be communicated to Scott, Brohier and his assistants. Approve the scheme of enlarging the White Town according to Scott's and Brohier's plans. As Scott disapproves of Robins' scheme for fortifying the Black Town on account of its cost and extent, it is not to be undertaken, but Scott and Brohier are to consider a means of defending it from raids; and if the Council approves, such scheme is to be carried out without further orders from England. Approve of Scott's and Brohier's plan for enlarging Fort St. David by building a curtain from 'Patch's battery to the lower [1] batterdeau' instead of the glacis proposed by Robins. Await Scott's opinion whether the Vizagapatam harbour can be made capable of receiving large ships. 'Our servants in general are contriving and putting every method in execution to enrich themselves at the Company's expence.' Accuse the Governor and Council of permitting Paymasters, Storekeepers and others to make dishonest gains on the works at Fort St. George and Fort St. David. This explains the abuses in the supply of bricks and other materials, the abandonment of Robins' method of accounts, and the discouragement Brohier has met with.[2] Unless matters are improved, every one of Council shall be punished. Scott or the Engineer of Madras is to be consulted in framing a proper system for carrying on the works. Scott should be present at all consultations at which questions regarding works are considered. Company's servants are not to supply bricks or other materials on their private account, and no monopoly is to be allowed. Written tenders for the supply of materials are to be called for. Materials condemned by Scott, Brohier, etc., are to be absolutely rejected, though the contractors may be allowed to sell them to private persons at reasonable rates. Burnt bricks should be 11″ × 5½″ × 2¼″. The accounts of both the Paymaster and Storekeeper must be maintained in such a way as to agree with the general books. The disapproval of the methods proposed by Robins seems to be a designed scheme to the advantage of the Paymaster. Scott shall employ as many assistants as he wants. Unless there is material objection, all appointments to vacancies made

[1] A Batardeau is a solid piece of masonry, 7 or 8 feet thick, crossing the whole breadth of the ditch opposite the flanked angles of the bastions. It retains the water in those parts of the ditch which require to be inundated. Griffiths Artill. Man., 1762, p. 262.

[2] Scott-Beddam dispute. See *Calendar of the Madras Despatches*, 1744–55, pp. 258–259.

by him shall be confirmed, and none should be employed as engineer without the approval of either Scott or Brohier. Are informed that the Paymasters have been making a dishonest gain on the exchange of fanams and pagodas.[1] If this is so, they are to refund their profits. Scott's ability and integrity is such that all attention is to be paid to his advice, not only as regards works but also in any other matter. His assistants are to be supported in the execution of his orders. He is to be provided with a house or to receive a reasonable allowance instead. Brohier shall receive pay as Engineer of 60 Pags. a month with arrears from the time it was stopped, in addition to his pay as Captain of the artillery. Repeat the previous orders regarding the conduct of Company's servants, especially of those who have been in any way concerned with the bricks. The Company alone cannot and should not bear the expenses of fortifications at Fort St. George and Fort St. David. Positively order a duty to be levied at both places at such rate as shall be thought reasonable. Call is well reported both by Scott and others and is to receive an additional allowance. Merits in other engineers should be similarly but sparingly encouraged. Disapprove the transfer from the Engineers to the covenanted service of O'Hara who went with Scott to Bengal. As he is better fitted to be an Engineer, he is to continue under Scott.

As Council reports so favourably of John Palmer who has been employed many years in the Secretary's Office, he is now entertained as the senior writer of the year. Send out as writers Thomas Kelsall, Charles Floyer, William Barker, Edward Raddon, Richard Cooke, John Maxwell Stone, Archdale Palmer and Abraham Browne. Send out about 400 recruits; the Swiss are to be divided among the 3 Swiss companies 100 more with two officers, Lieutenant Edward Frith and Ensign John Lamb, proceed *via* Sumatra. If really necessary, the 200 Bengal recruits may be detained at Madras. Approve the Bombay resolution to send a reinforcement to Madras. Shall direct that presidency to send to Madras what soldiers they can well spare.

Sumatra affairs.

Supplement.—Have appointed Dugal Campbell, Edward Frith, Samuel Samson, John Keith and Henry Trepsack to the first vacancies as lieutenants; and Charles Kerr, Charles Todd, Jonathan Brooke, William Elliott and John Lamb to the first

[1] Pags. (gold) : Fans. (silver).—exchange varied from 36-42 or more.

vacancies as ensigns. Jonathan Brooke, being qualified to serve in the artillery, may succeed either as ensign of the infantry or as second lieutenant of the artillery. Their pay is to commence from the dates of arrival at Fort St. George. They are to rank in the order named irrespective of the dates of their commission. Recommend Dugal Campbell for promotion, as he served well as an officer in Admiral Boscawen's expedition.[1] Ross Lang, Alexander Tuite and William Robson are sent as cadets. Are sending two skilled charcoal burners, Thomas Osman and Robert Scory, to serve under William Bishop in the Madras powder mill, on £60 and 30 a year, respectively.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., COUNCIL AT MADRAS. LONDON, JANUARY 31, 1755. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 58, *pp.* 61–103 (*original* 43 *pp.*).]

Cite despatch dated November 29, 1754. The *Bombay Castle* sailed on December 16; *Hardwicke*, *Rhoda*, *Prince of Wales*, *Drake*, and *Earl of Holdernesse* on December 19, 1754; and *Prince George* and *Exeter* on January 2, 1755. Have hired the *Dodington* for £3,500 to convey stores, provisions, guns, etc., to His Majesty's squadron and forces in India. The fare for a passenger or a soldier going on her is £8 a head. Are also sending for His Majesty's forces 120 tons of beef and pork on the Bengal ships the *Eastcourt* and *Duke of Dorset*. Greatest care should be taken to prevent such deficiencies of rice as occurred on the *Godolphin*. The Madras Council has shown much greater activity in employing ships detained in India than the Bengal Council. Both must co-operate for the profitable employment of ships. Approve the suggestion that such ships may be employed to bring rice from Bengal or timber and planks from Pegu. Detention of ships at the Negrais is to be avoided. Regarding the Madras proposal to revive the orders of January 31, 1734, will recommend Bengal to take care that all country ships belonging to persons trading under the Company's protection, call only at the English settlements on the Coast unless there is very good reason to the contrary. Those enjoying the Company's protection should not

[1] Boscowen's troops consisted of independent companies raised in 1747 for service in the East Indies. They were formed in part by drafts from regiments on the Irish establishment, in part by recruitment in Scotland. Only two or three of the officers had held commissions before. Dugal Campbell was first Lieutenant in Stuart's independent Company. He accompanied Clive to Bengal in 1756, with rank as Captain, and was killed at Baj-Baj. His widow, I believe, was the first wife of Warren Hastings.

try to avoid paying the Company's duties. At the same time, no restraint of any sort is to be imposed on the trade of those who land their goods.

The usual direction regarding bullion consigned to Bengal. The Madras Pags. and Rs. are reported by the Accountant still to be short of the standard, and the samples of Mexico and pillar Dollars sent from Madras seem to be rather finer than was reported. Care must be taken to keep the Assaymaster and Mint contractor to their duties.

The Coast investment, especially that at Vizagapatam, continues disappointing. The quality has greatly deteriorated and the measurements are not kept up. It is believed that this is due to the large quantities of cloth, made for private persons, of less than the Company's measurements. This must be remedied. The method followed in making the investment is still unsatisfactory. In the 1753 investment, only 7 days elapsed betwèen calling for proposals and their final acceptance. The Council's practice of dealing only with one set of merchants does not produce that healthy competition which would lower prices and improve the quality. The Fort St. David investment must be carefully watched, especially in regard to the practice of making large advances. The Northern settlements must be timely supplied with money, especially copper coins, the want of which has impeded their investment. Sufficient redwood should be provided for all the Coast and Bay ships, and a proper stock of redwood suitable for China maintained. The quality of Oringal and Pulicat beteellas needs improvement, even at a slight increase of cost, as they are in good demand. The chintz baftas were badly painted. The sample of chintz moorees fine printed at Vizagapatam differed much in pattern from the Madras chintz, and many pieces of longcloth and salampores, especially those from Vizagapatam and Ingeram, were found on opening to be damaged.

Note that the Dutch at Batavia have paid compensation for the 2 prows cut off at Sinkell on the west coast of Sumatra, and for the cargo of the *Surprize* sloop seized by them. Trust that the complaints made in Europe of their conduct will prevent such things in future. If the Dutch decline to refund the 1% duty imposed on the Madras Manilla ship forced by a leak to land her cargo at Malacca, their ships forced into English ports should be treated similarly, and a report should be sent home to be submitted to His Majesty; but the English must be careful to preserve their

own rights. 'Peace is the object of our most earnest wishes.' If the French agents in India were not actuated by other views than commerce, it would not be difficult to come to an accommodation. Enclose copies[1] of further papers relating to the negotiations here. The French Company aims at a great power in the Deccan, but 'do not openly avow it here to the extent Mr. Dupleix's ambition and views have carryed them.' Much regret that the King of Mysore should have given up the Nawab's cause. Believe this misfortune might have been avoided; and all prudent measures must be used to recover his friendship. The Nawab evidently takes little trouble to discharge his great debt and must be urged to pay it off as soon as possible. The Company cannot afford to divert so large a sum from their commerce. The French may have spent 120 lakhs by the beginning of 1753, but they have got riches by the death of Nasir Jang and enjoyed the revenues of several large countries. An arrangement must be made with the Nawab for the discharge of debts as they arise.

As regards the payment of compensation for the demolished Portuguese church[2] to Father Severini 'who has the management of the religious fund,' and the restoration to him of the Vepery chapel granted to the Danish missionaries, require further enquiry and report. Similar orders regarding the houses confiscated at Madras and claimed by Balleu and de Itay Salazar. Regarding the Resolution [Public Consultations, September 29, 1752] to restore to Jaggoo the right to collect the Chintadripet pagoda customs, on condition of his paying off his debt to the Company at the rate of 2,000 Pags. a year, note that the duties for the maintenance of pagodas amount to nearly 3% on all imports by Indian merchants. No new grants of this kind are to be made and the old ones, if possible, should be reduced. Approve of the steps taken to recover the arrears due on farms at the time of the loss of Madras. Notice with satisfaction the increase in the inland and sea customs revenues. The greatest care should be taken to encourage trade by allowing complete freedom. Any servant whatever his rank or position, endeavouring to obstruct it will be severely punished. A notification to that effect in the usual languages should be published in all the Company's settlements. Agree that all houses should be assessed to quit-rent. The Council should try to get as much revenue as possible without distressing trade or oppressing

[1] *Public Despatches from England*, vol. 58, pp. 235-277.
[2] *i.e.*, St. Andrew's Church in the Fort.

the poorer inhabitants. Cannot at present afford to raise buildings not absolutely required. Regarding the proposed townhall desire a report as to the present accommodation of the Courts of Justice and a plan and estimate of the proposed building.

Have appointed another writer John Douglas. Enclose lists of persons licensed to proceed to the East Indies. Approve the notice taken of the negligence among the junior servants of Madras and urge the continuance of such care. Thomas Cooke's[1] misconduct in refusing to perform the duties he was entrusted with and his scandalous and mercenary demand of 1,000 pagodas well merit dismissal. He is only continued in service in the hope that his future conduct will display his penitence. Require an impartial report whether Dawsonne Drake was really ill at the time when he refused to proceed to Sumatra. Observe great backwardness in some of the Company's servants to serve in the stations allotted to them. Direct that such conduct should be punished with immediate suspension and the matter reported for final orders. Thomas Heath may continue as a covenanted servant on condition that he serves as an Engineer; otherwise he must be sent home. The Assistant Engineers are to rank as covenanted servants with pay and allowances as such and an extra allowance according to their merits. They are not attached to any particular presidency, but are to serve wherever required. The services of John Starke are dispensed with. Direct that Henry Vansittart and Richard Fairfield take rank next below Hugh Norris, on account of their diligent service. Approve Dupré's appointment as Secretary as his service in England was satisfactory. The Company's servants should be assured that ability, integrity and zealous service will be rewarded. Have been unable to obtain a copy of *Thesaurus Linguarum Orientalium* by Franciscus Mesgnien.[2] Approve of the detention in Madras of the recruits for Bengal. The Bombay and Bengal detachments should not lose their rank in those presidencies by serving in Madras, but their extra diet allowance should be discontinued. Approve the encouragement given to young men to serve as volunteers. The Swiss captains are to be on the same footing

[1] He had refused to go as Commissary to Tanjore and Trichinopoly without extra allowances.

[2] Mesgnien Meninski Franciscus A. Thesaurus Linguarum Orientalium Turcicae, Arabicae, Persicae, etc. Viennae Austriae, 1680–87; 4 vols, folio, New ed. Vienna 1780.

as English captains as regards clothing the Companies. Gaupp's claim based on his having bought Chabbert's Company is inadmissible. The Swiss soldiers in the Company's service should enjoy the same privileges as the English troops. Muster rolls of the Company's troops must be submitted annually. The Captains of the artillery are to provide the clothing for their Companies like the Captains of the infantry. Complain that the Paymaster at Fort St. David remitted to Captain Schaub at Pondichery pay for his whole company without receiving any muster roll. Trust that justice has been done to the company in this matter; and, if Schaub drew pay for more men than he really had, the difference must be recovered. Artillery officers may receive promotion in the infantry, when eligible, provided their behaviour is satisfactory. Statements of quick stock are required to enable the Company to submit a general statement of their affairs to the proprietors every June. Point out certain inaccuracies in the Register of diamonds, etc. Complain of the delay and negligence in the submission of the Fort St. David accounts. The copy of the Standing Orders sent only begins in 1720. It must be carried back as far as possible. Regarding the Consultation of May 14, 1753, the Council is wrong in considering that the contractor's receipt for bullion into the Mint is a sufficient indemnity to the President as Mint Master. The latter is accountable to the Company for all gold and silver so delivered. Observe that in 1753, Powney as Import Warehouse-keeper and Sea Customer kept balances in his hands of 20,000 to 35,000 Pags. This is not to be permitted. The passing of the accounts by the Council seems to have become a mere form; order the establishment of a Standing Committee of Accounts, consisting of the President, two or three councillors, and some other senior servants. Their reports should be read in Council before any accounts are passed. Recommend the appointment of committees for affairs that require examination before decision, both at the Presidency and at the subordinate settlements. The remaining bonds and claims for money borrowed by Morse and Council in 1746 should be discharged as soon as possible. The 3,000 Pags. belonging to the Charity School stock should be repaid to the church wardens with simple interest at 8 *per cent.* Peter Denker should be paid the principal only and no interest. Call for a report on John Gray's claim. John Stratton's debt of 2,592 Pags. must be recovered from his heirs, George and Sarah Stratton. No Company's servant should be

allowed to return to England until he has paid all his dues. Decline to admit Morse's claim put forward on January 28th, 1754, for money advanced to provide for goods for the Company, as it appears unlikely that Morse neglected to take credit for whatever was really due to him when he settled his accounts with the Company. Have paid to the relatives of Captain William Richards a total sum of £190 owing to their necessitous conditions. Have also advanced £200 to the heirs of Captain Peter Love *alias* Peter Philip de Banda. The amounts due on the estates of John William Speck and John Trenwith have been paid to their heirs.

The commission, dated March 23, 5 George II, for trying 'piracys, felonys and robberys comitted upon the high seas' did not lapse on the capture of Madras. But as this was not the case with the other courts of justice, a fresh charter was applied for. The Company had not expected fresh complaints regarding the new charter and they do not propose to apply for any alterations unless they should prove absolutely necessary. As regards the meaning of the term 'natives,' which the Mayor's Court alleges to include all persons born in India, reply that the phrase used is 'Indian natives,' and obviously includes only the classes who petitioned[1] the President and Council in 1735, *i.e.*, the Brahmans, Guzaratees, Right and Left hand Gentues and the Moors. Against having their causes tried before the Mayor's Court, that petition supplied the reason for the recent exclusion of cases arising between Indian natives from the jurisdiction of the Mayor's Court unless both parties consented. If any alteration in the clause is really necessary, a full report should be submitted after consulting the Mayor's Court and heads of castes. As to the enquiry whether the same person may be re-elected as Mayor for the next year, it is left to the discretion of the Council. It is not uncommon to appoint the same man to be Mayor two or more years unless he proves unworthy, but on the whole it is preferable to allow every member to succeed to the chair in his turn by appointing different persons every year. The provision allowing the Mayor to continue in office till another is chosen is made to prevent the dissolution of the Corporation by failure to appoint a new Mayor. If an alderman is likely to be absent for less than 12 months his seat is not vacated. As to the proposal to fill up vacancies in the Court of Requests as they arise instead of doing so annually, the charter is explicit and

[1] Copy at pp. 285–292, *Public Despatches from England*, vol. 58.

cannot be altered. Any number up to 24 may be nominated as Commissioners, and as 3 form a quorum, no inconvenience is likely to occur through death or removal. 'The filling up vacancies as they happen may introduce a partiality and tend to constitute a pack of Commissioners.' The Company consider that there is ample security against frivolous appeals if appellants offer security for interest and cost. Resignations by aldermen are invalid till accepted by the Council. In proposing alterations in the charter, the persons to be affected must be consulted, and the reasons for and against must be noted in the Consultations, and a revised draft of the clause must be sent home.

Supplement.—All junior engineers under Robins (except Charles O'Hara) on being appointed covenanted servants should execute the usual covenants and furnish security; they are however liable to be stationed at any of the presidencies. Have entertained John Dyer, an able bricklayer, to serve in Madras for 5 years on a consolidated salary of £90 a year. He is to work under Scott. Have taken up another ship, the *Pelham*. Enclose instructions[1] for making gunpowder. Have permitted the captains of the *Duke of Dorset* and *Eastcourt* to carry £35 or 40 worth of trading guns, shot and flints with which to purchase provisions at Madagascar if forced to touch there. If unused they are to be delivered at prime cost to the Council at Madras. Captain Samson of the *Hardwicke* reports that he has taken Miss Campbell, a young lady, as a passenger for Madeira. As the Company have not permitted him to do so, she should at once be sent back to England if she lands at any of the Company's settlements. Recommend that a fund should be established to provide for the sick, wounded and disabled officers and soldiers and their widows, supported by contributions from the pay of officers and men. Send for Bengal, 200 recruits and Lieutenant Thomas Blagg, Ensigns Richard Geers, Henry Spelman, and William Hastings. They may be detained at Madras if necessary. Fuller information should have been furnished to enable the Company to decide the claim of Percival as executor of Thomas Eyre's estate. His Majesty has furnished the Company with brass ordnance consisting of 2 twelve-pounders, 10 six-pounders and 4 howitzers of 5½″, with iron work for carriages, shot, shell, carbines, etc. These are sent by the *Eastcourt*, *Duke of Dorset* and *Dodington*.

[1] *Public Despatches from England*, vol. 58, pp. 293–294.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., COUNCIL AT MADRAS. LONDON, FEBRUARY 14, 1755. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 58, *p.* 105 (*Original* 1 *page*); *also in Military Despatches from England, Vol.* 1, *p.* 1 (*original* 1 *page*).]

Have empowered the Secret Committee (consisting of Roger Drake, Richard Chauncy, William Mabbott, and Jones Raymond) to carry on the correspondence relating to the Company's naval, military and political affairs. They are authorised to appoint a Select Committee at Madras to deal with these matters and the Council are directed to furnish the necessary supplies of money and other assistance that they may need. Both in England and in France great naval preparations are being made.

DESPATCH FROM THE SECRET COMMITTEE TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., COUNCIL AT MADRAS. LONDON, FEBRUARY 14, 1755. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 58, *p.* 107 (*original* 1 *page*); *also in Military Despatches from England, Vol.* 1, *p.* 5 (*original* 1 *page*).]

Have appointed as Select Committee, Thomas Saunders, George Pigot, Lieutenant-Colonel Caroline Frederick Scott, Lieutenant-Colonel Stringer Lawrence, Henry Powney, Robert Orme, Alexander Wynch, and William Percival. Rev. Robert Palk is to succeed to the first vacancy. All future vacancies are to be filled up by such persons as the Committee shall think proper.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., COUNCIL AT MADRAS. LONDON, MARCH 26, 1755. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 58, *pp.* 111–122 (*original* 12 *pp.*); *also in Vol.* 59, *pp.* 23–33 (*original* 11 *pp.*).]

Cite despatches of November 29, 1754, January 31, and February 14, 1755. This goes by the *Dodington*[1]. Refer to the conditions of her engagement [2]. If she is sold, security should be taken from the purchaser that he does not return her to England or sell her to the French or other European foreigners. She carries much naval and military stores and provisions besides a detachment of 107 men of the Royal Artillery and 93 recruits. In case she is detained or sent elsewhere, a reasonable allowance should be made with the owners. The usual directions about the treatment

[1] Was lost on the voyage, and the first copy of this Despatch was therefore never received.

[2] See p. 6 *supra*.

of the military on board. Have sent on her £50 worth of trading guns, shot and flints for disposal at Madagascar [in exchange for fresh provisions] or for delivery to the Council at Madras at prime cost. The *Eastcourt* and the *Duke of Dorset* sailed on February 17. Three companies of the Royal Artillery and a large train of artillery are sent on the Bombay ships, which will proceed direct to the Coast if the Secret Committee thinks fit. Surgeons are to get the usual head money. In future all goods and treasure, on being landed, should be inspected, weighed and numbered in the presence of the Captain or Purser, and damaged packages noted. Particulars of guns, shot, etc., purchased from ships' commanders should be noted by the Military Storekeeper in his journal. Complain of mistakes in the invoices of piece-goods. In future persons signing the tickets in the bales will be held responsible for deficiencies. Send report on the assay of rupees and pagodas coined at Madras. As indigo fetches a good price in England, 10 tons of the best Lahore indigo are to be purchased if obtainable.[1] Grand naval preparations in France have created such an alarm that the English have been forced to equip a fleet. Exhort the three presidencies to act together for the common good at this crisis. His Majesty has assisted the Company with 4 companies of artillery, containing 107 men each. These go on the *Dodington* and the Bombay ships. The difference between the King's pay and the Company's must be made good to them. The brass ordnance purchased for the Company and sent on the *Eastcourt, Duke of Dorset, Dodington* and the Bombay ships, consists of 6 twelve-pounders, 34 six-pounders, and 8 five-and-a-half inch howitzers. In order that the establishment of the Company's artillery may be the same as that in the King's service, direct that each of the 2 companies of artillery in the Company's service should consist of:—

1 Captain on	... ...	£200, a year.
1 Captain-lieutenant on	...	£109-10-0, „
1 First Lieutenant on	... ...	£100, „
1 Second Lieutenant on	...	£90, „
3 Lieutenant fire-workers on	...	3 *s.* a day each.
3 Serjeants on	... ...	2 *s.* „
3 Corporals	... ...	1 *s.* 8 *d.* „
8 Bombardiers on	... ...	1 *s.* 6 *d.* „
20 Gunners on	... ...	1 *s.* 4 *d.* „

[1] At this time indigo was imported principally from the West Indies.

64	Mattrosses on	... ...	1 *s.* a day each.
2	Drummers on	... ...	1 *s.* „
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The Regulations of June 17, 1748, apply so far as is consistent[1] with these regulations. Send on the *Dodington* [95] recruits. Have entertained as cadets Charles Hunton, Andrew Nesbitt, Gilbert Ironside, Ralph Headlam and Robert Campbell. The two first and Robert Campbell sail on the *Dodington*. Have selected Charles Prissick, Alexander Cameron, and Aeneas Sutherland to be Lieutenants. They also sail on the *Dodington*. In consideration of Robert Clive's eminent services, have reappointed him in the Company's service next after George Pigot. He is to be Second in Council and Deputy Governor of Fort St. David on Saunders' retirement, with succession to the presidency after Pigot. He proceeds on the *Stretham*, one of the Bombay ships. Edmund Maskelyne is, on account of his good behaviour, allowed to return to his rank in the Company's service when his military service can be dispensed with. [The rest of the despatch relates to Sumatra affairs.]

Appended are Company's instructions, etc., to Captain James Samson of the *Dodington* (*pp.* 326—332).

DESPATCH FROM THE SECRET COMMITTEE TO [GEORGE PIGOT, ETC.], SELECT COMMITTEE AT MADRAS. LONDON, MARCH 26, 1755. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol.* I, *pp.* 11—14 (*original* 4 *pp.*)]

As the French threaten to crush the English in all parts of India, and as all attempts to secure an honourable peace have proved unsuccessful, the Company have again applied to His Majesty for further help, and submitted a plan for the preservation of English settlements in India. His Majesty has granted 4 companies of the Royal Artillery, each containing 107 men. The Bombay presidency is now ordered to take advantage of the friendship it has cultivated with the Marathas. Enclose copies of the letter to the Select Committee at Bombay and of the proposed plan of operations. Madras should co-operate with Bombay in carrying out the scheme with the greatest secrecy, so far as it can be done without incurring danger in the Carnatic. Either Colonel Scott or Colonel Lawrence should go to Bombay to command the

[1] See *Calendar of the Madras Despatches*, 1744-55, p. 71.

expedition. Appointment of Robert Clive to the Council at Madras and his departure on the *Stretham*. Commanders of His Majesty's Land and Sea forces are to be consulted as regards the best method for carrying out the plan. The Select Committee at Bombay includes the officers appointed from the Coast to command the expedition. The artillery company on the *Dodington* consists of newly raised men. They are to be landed at Madras and replaced by seasoned troops. She is then to be despatched either to Bombay, or to the northern part of the Coromandel Coast as may seem most advantageous, or she may be employed in bringing troops round from Bombay. Have directed the Governor of Fort William to carry out any instructions sent in connection with this scheme from either Madras or Bombay, but he will receive no further information except what the Select Committees give him.

DESPATCH FROM THE SECRET COMMITTEE TO THE COUNCIL AT BOMBAY. LONDON, MARCH 26, 1755. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol.* I, *pp.* 163—165 (*copy* 3 *pp.*).]

Appoint a Select Committee at Bombay. Colonel Scott, Colonel Stringer Lawrence, Robert Clive or such officer as may be sent from Madras to command the expedition, may also sit while there.

Appended is an extract from the Company's despatch, dated March 26, 1755, regarding formation of a Select Committee at Bombay.

DESPATCH FROM THE SECRET COMMITTEE TO RICHARD BOURCHIER, ETC., SELECT COMMITTEE AT BOMBAY. LONDON, MARCH 26, 1755. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol.* I, *pp.* 27—43 (*original* 17 *pp.*).]

The ambitious policy of the French especially in the Carnatic and their vast acquisitions in the Deccan have already put the English Company to great expense and interrupted their trade; and effectual measures are needed to prevent its total loss. Last year, on the Company's application, Government fitted out a squadron of 4 ships of the line, a 20 gun-ship and a sloop, with a regiment and some artillery. It is hoped that these forces together with the Company's reinforcements have checked the French. The Company with the assistance of the Ministry have tried in vain to secure an honourable peace, but the French only sought to gain time to strengthen their acquisitions. Fresh

application has therefore been made for further help. The Company propose to take advantage of the friendship with the Marathas established by the Padshah, as they were only defeated in their attempt to establish Ghazi-ud-din Khan by the French artillery, and as they invited the English to co-operate with them against Angria. By this, it is hoped that the Deccan and the Carnatic may be restored to their natural and lawful sovereigns and the Company's trade and settlements may be secured. Enclose copies[1] of the correspondence relating to the negotiations between the two Companies. The English policy from the first has been that both nations should give up all their new possessions in Tanjore, the Carnatic and the Deccan, and that Muhammad Ali Khan should be continued Nawab of Arcot. But the French would not agree and insisted on the retention of places in Tanjore and the Carnatic. An equivalent was proposed to the English Company; and terms might have been agreed upon but for their claims in the Deccan which cannot be recognised, as their revenues would then enable them to control Salabat Jang and the whole south. Recommend that a treaty be made with Sahu Raja as secretly as possible, under the cloak of an expedition against Angria, to attack Salabat Jang and his allies. The Company's troops should act only as auxiliaries, preferably as allies of the Moghal Emperor, assisting him to drive out his rebel subjects and those who support them. The conditions, if possible, should include repayment of the Company's expense; and the treaty should be arranged by the Governor of Bombay himself in order to keep the matter as secret as possible. The Select Committee at Madras has been ordered to co-operate with Bombay. A diversion on the Masulipatam side might facilitate the projected operations. The Marathas must solemnly engage not to come to any compromise either with Salabat Jang, his friends or allies, for money or portions only of the territories unjustly seized by the latter. The Marathas may be induced to proceed to the Carnatic, especially if the kings of Tanjore or Mysore desire their assistance, provided the Select Committee at Fort St. George raise no objection. The Marathas may be consulted about drawing some of the princes near Vizagapatam into the alliance, and the recovery of the Divi Island and the English factories near Masulipatam. A cypher is sent for secret correspondence between the Governors of Madras, Bombay and Bengal. It is to be kept by the

[1] *Military Despatches from England*, vol. i, pp. 71—154.

Governors only. For similar correspondence between subordinate factories and commanders in the field, a small cypher is also sent. If the Marathas will not join in this plan, recommend that the artillery, stores and men be sent round to the Coast. The ships so employed should call at Achin for orders from Madras, and then perhaps proceed to Vizagapatam. It is however left to the Governor and Second and to Hough 'as being well acquainted with the navigation of those seas' to decide how best to send the troops. The result of the negotiations with the Marathas must at once be communicated in cypher to Madras, Vizagapatam and Bengal. Report should be sent in cypher to the Company *via* Bussorah, Aleppo, Constantinople, and Vienna, but not *via* France; and Alexander Drummond, the British Consul at Aleppo, should be desired to expedite such packets. Colonel Scott or Colonel Lawrence should command the expedition, and a prime sailing vessel be despatched at once to the Coast. The Commander of this ship must be cautioned not to betray what is being done at Bombay, and need not be informed of the real design. Should neither Scott nor Lawrence, nor the Lieutenant-Colonel nor the Major of His Majesty's Regiment arrive in time, Clive is to command. He has His Majesty's commission as Lieutenant-Colonel in the East Indies. In any case the expedition should be provided with at least two officers of superior rank to the Major of His Majesty's artillery, as he cannot possess the knowledge requisite to conduct a campaign in India. He however is to be one of the Military Council which should be occasionally consulted during the expedition. While at Bombay, Robert Clive is to be shown the honours due to the Second at Bombay and to a Lieutenant-Colonel. He is not to be otherwise employed than of his own free choice, unless the command devolves on him. On his return to the Coast, he may quit the army and return to civil duty. The train of brass artillery for Bombay and the train of 2 twelve-pounders, 10 six-pounders and 4 five-and-a-half inch howitzers sent to Madras, are Company's property and must be usefully employed. If on the Bombay coast, the Admiral or commanding officer should be consulted on all military operations. They may, if necessary, be desired to go round to join the ships to the north-east on the Coast, calling at Achin for information.

As the *Dodington* may only reach Madras late in the season, copies of the plan, instructions, cypher, etc., are to be sent to Madras by the swift sailing ship already mentioned. A copy of this letter is sent to Madras by the *Dodington*. Twenty of the six-pounders are

being sent without carriages. Carriages are to be made according to the pattern sent. Artillery officers must be consulted as regards provision of transport. A number of light and portable chevaux-de-frise should be prepared. His Majesty's officers, etc., should be accommodated on arrival, and when in the field should be on the same footing as Company's officers. Recruits sent to Bombay. 1,000 or 1,200 sepoys may be raised, disciplined and regimented, or formed into companies, or intermixed with Europeans. Such troops have been of great use on the Coromandel Coast. A body of lascars should be raised in the artillery. Special instructions are to be given against plunder or excesses.

Supplement.—Sir James Foulis will not accompany the expedition, not for any lack of competence in him, but because an officer of his rank is needed at Bombay. He may however be employed if it is found necessary. As His Majesty's commission for Robert Clive is not ready, he should be given a commission of Lieutenant-Colonel on his arrival.

Appended are—

(1) Extract of the King's warrant, dated March 11, 1755, directing 4 companies of artillery to be embarked on the Company's ships to India, with sufficient arms, accoutrements, ammunition, and camp equipage [p. 47].

(2) Statement showing the proportion of brass ordnance, howitzers and military stores usually allotted by the Board of Ordnance for a train of artillery [pp. 59—64].

(3) Copy of paragraphs 21 and 22 of the Company's letter to Madras, dated March 2, 1754, relating to the minute of the Whitehall Conference, dated February 19, 1754 [pp. 67-68].

[1] (4) English project of an agreement [pp. 71—77].

[1] (5) French project of an agreement [pp. 79—85].

[1] (6) Observations of the French on the English project, dated February 4, 1754 [pp. 87—101].

[1] (7) Observations of the English on the French plan [pp. 103—106].

(8) English Committee's answer, dated April 24, 1754 [pp. 107—113].

(9) Secret Committee's letter to the French Commissaries, dated April 26, 1754 [p. 115].

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[1] For items 4 to 7, *vide Calendar of the Madras Despatches*, 1744—1755, pp. 234—39.

(10) Observations of the French on the English Committee's answers with a revised draft of article 5 [pp. 119—142].

(11) Reply of the English to the above, dated November 12, 1754, with a revised draft of article 5 [pp. 143—152].

(12) Holdernesse's letter to the Duke of Mirepoix, dated November 19, 1754 [pp. 153–154].

PLAN FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE ENGLISH SETTLEMENTS IN INDIA. LONDON, [DECEMBER 6, 1754], MARCH 26, 1755. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol.* I, pp. 15—18 (*original* 4 pp.).]

It is proposed to send to Bombay a train of artillery consisting of 6 or 8 twelve-pounders, 12 or 14 six-pounders, 4 or 5 eight-inch mortars fit to be mounted on travelling carriages, and a similar train to the Coast of Coromandel. Four new companies of artillery, each a 100 strong, should be formed, two for each presidency. His Majesty's and the Company's troops and artillery, both at Bombay and Madras, should be brought up to their full complements and supported by a naval force. The Company's agents at Bombay and Madras are to concert measures in conjunction with the neighbouring Nawabs and especially with the Marathas, in order to reduce Salabat Jang. The nobles lately dispossessed of their employment by the French will certainly join this. The Bombay army should join the Marathas and march on the Deccan. As many men as can be spared from Madras are to proceed northward to co-operate, and in the Carnatic itself only a defensive policy is to be followed. The artillery and troops for the northward should be embarked as quietly as possible on the Bengal ships, escorted, if necessary, by His Majesty's men-of-war and landed at Vizagapatam or some other convenient place. The Bombay army will march about October and reach the Deccan just before Christmas. If the French are only kept busy in the Arcot country and do not learn of this plan till the eve of the troops' embarkation for the northward, they will not be able to send assistance to Salabat Jang, especially if the squadron lies off Pondichery, where it may take the occasion to threaten reprisals for the seizure of the Swiss troops at Sea. The various forces will concentrate in the Deccan about Christmas. The squadron must leave the Coast early in October and proceed to Bengal or to the East by reason of the monsoon. To justify the attack the English should demand of Salabat Jang the restitution of Divi and the factories at Masulipatam, etc., and threaten to

attack him in case of refusal. To add weight to the demand, the English squadron may lie off Divi on the Coast. Thus peace may be restored, or at all events the French influence may be rooted out of the Deccan. But His Majesty's aid is indispensable.

The appendix, dated March 26, 1755, contains variations in the plan. Instead of the train mentioned for Bombay, 4 twelve-pounders, 24 six-pounders, 4 mounted five-and-three-fourth inch howitzers should be sent thither; and 2 twelve-pounders, 10 six-pounders and 3 howitzers are to be sent to Madras. Of the four new companies, one is to be attached to Madras and three to Bombay. The uncertainty of the relations between England and France has delayed matters. The Company has done its share, and it is hoped that the Ministry will do theirs as soon as the preparations for war are complete and ships can be spared for foreign service. It is now so late that the Madras Committee will be unable exactly to conform to the proposed plans, but it is hoped that it will still be able to do so in all essential matters.

LETTER FROM THE SECRET COMMITTEE TO CAROLINE FREDERICK SCOTT. LONDON, MARCH 26, 1755. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol.* 1, *p.* 51 *(original* 1 *p.).*]

Desire him to undertake the command of the expedition mentioned in their letter to Madras Select Committee of this date.

LETTER FROM THE SECRET COMMITTEE TO STRINGER LAWRENCE. LONDON, MARCH 26, 1755. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol.* 1, *p.* 55 (*original* 1 *p.*).]

Desire him to undertake the command of the expedition in case Colonel Scott cannot take it.

ENGLISH ANSWER TO THE FRENCH PROJECT OF FEBRUARY 1754. LONDON, APRIL 24, 1754. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol.* 1, *pp.* 107—113 (*copy* 7 *pp.*); *another copy in Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 58, *pp.* 235—242]

The basis of the Treaty is that both the Companies should, in future, be merely commercial and not belligerent. The preamble may be admitted, but the precedence of the two Companies should be alternative so that neither might suffer in the estimation of the Indians. Suggest the following alterations in the French project as embodying the wishes of both Companies:—

As regards deserters, prefer the arrangements proposed in article 3 of the English project. Article 2 may be admitted

omitting the words, 'to unite and mutually support each other in opposing anything injurious to trade.'

In article 3, propose a verbal alteration regarding Devikottai. Propose that the name 'Carnatic' should be regarded as synonymous with the Arcot province. Propose to insert both the Poonamallee country and Villiyanallur and Valudavur by name. In stipulating equality of new possessions of the two Companies, area and not merely length or distance should be taken into account, so that the English will have in the Poonamallee country the same area as the French will possess at Villiyanallur, Valudavur, etc. These new territories must be surveyed and maps thereof prepared to be jointly certified as correct.

In article 4, the stipulations regarding evacuation and surrender of prisoners and artillery should run in the names of both Companies. Suggest a new provision that all places taken from the Nawab by the neighbouring princes, should be restored to him. The article should specify who should be acknowledged Nawab. If Muhammad Ali Khan is not dispossessed of his Nawabship by the Moghal Emperor, he should be considered Nawab by both parties. If he is dead or dispossessed, any person so appointed by the immediate authority of the Moghal shall be Nawab. If none be appointed, both the Companies shall report to the Moghal for orders; meanwhile they should arrange to release prisoners and return artillery.

As to article 5, propose that the English engage like the French to evacuate Masulipatam and Divi Island in case both or either of them be in their possession. The clause by which the French reserve to themselves the surplus grants in the Deccan should be deleted. Propose instead that each Company shall hold the factories in the Deccan, possessed by them before the war, and build such new factories as they require for trade whether in Tanjore, Coromandel or the Deccan, and fortify them, provided that no revenue, rent or profit, except such as arise from trade, are attached to them, that they do not involve territorial extension and that they are not so near each other as to arouse trade difficulties. As to Masulipatam and Divi Island, one of two courses may be followed. First, the English should hold and fortify Divi Island while the French retain Masulipatam and five or six leagues of territory surrounding it, without disturbing other Europeans who hold factories there. Secondly, these and all other places be delivered up to the Moors and all European forts

built during the war be demolished, except those erected for mere defence purpose and those mutually agreed on to be retained.

The secret and separate article is unnecessary. Indian governments are not likely to refuse complying with the terms of the treaty deliberately agreed upon by the two Companies. On the other hand such secret articles would probably shake the confidence of the Indians in the Company's honour and create jealousy and mistrust.

LETTER FROM THE SECRET COMMITTEE TO DUVELAER AND DE LUDE. LONDON, APRIL 26, 1754. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol. I, p.* 115 (*copy* 1 *page*); *another copy in Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 58, *p.* 243.]

As it is now too late in the season to conclude a treaty or to communicate it to India, forward the plan proposed by the East India Company and at the same time notify to the French commissaries that, with a view to stopping hostilities in India, they have authorized their agents on the Coast to conclude a provisional treaty.

THE FRENCH COMMITTEE'S REMARKS ON THE ENGLISH COMMITTEE'S ANSWER. PARIS, MAY 4, 1754. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol. I, copy in English, pp.* 119–128, *copy in French, pp.* 131–138; *another set in Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 58, *pp.* 245—261.]

In article 3, the term 'Carnatic' may be altogether deleted and 'province of Arcot' substituted. Cannot understand why the English alone should be allowed to extend themselves in the Poonamallee country irrespective of its distance from Madras, while the French should be hindered from acquiring possessions inland.

Agree to the proposal to insert both Companies' names in certain stipulations of article 4, and to bind princes to restore to the Nawab places taken from him. The French do not object to naming the Nawab, though it is inconvenient. As nothing can be stipulated contrary to the right of the Subah of the Deccan over the Nawabship of Arcot, without infringing the laws and customs of the Moghal Empire, it is proposed to substitute for the expression, 'by the authority or the immediate authority of the Great Moghal,' the words 'by a lawful authority according to the laws and customs of the Moghal Empire.'

Agree to the addition to article 5 that the English Company should restore to the Moors Divi Island and Masulipatam if in the English possession, though they cannot conceive under what pretence the English can have seized them. Do not dispute the liberty of the English to increase their factories in the Deccan or elsewhere. But the regulation as to distances between factories is unusual. The essential point in the English proposal is the limitation of the French settlements in the Deccan, which the French cannot agree to, and insist on the stipulation of the 5th article sent to Mirepoix on the 8th April last. The English Company confuse the convenience and security of trade. Mere factories may provide convenience but cannot possibly give security of trade. The French Company insist upon possessing such settlements as will give a real security by affording power to resist a serious attack. The present proposals are inconsistent with the declaration made by Holdernesse to Mirepoix in a letter of March 24, that the English did not oppose the possession by the French of solid and secure settlements on the northern coast, provided they did not endanger the English or the country powers. The French demand nothing more than this. If the national peace cannot protect them from attack, they will endeavour to defend them with a full sense of the justice of their cause.

The secret article is intended to secure (1) the peace of both Companies, and (2) restitution of prisoners. Both these points have been met by the explanations of the English Committee.

THE ENGLISH COMMITTEE'S REPLY TO THE REMARKS, DATED MAY 4, 1754, OF THE FRENCH COMMITTEE. LONDON, NOVEMBER 12, 1754. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol.* 1, *pp.* 143—149 (*copy 7 pp.*); *also in Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 58, *pp.* 267—272.]

The English Committee have been solely inspired by the hope of putting an end to the troubles. As the French seem to decline giving any further explanation regarding the points raised by Holdernesse in his letter of August 6, they now offer reasons why they still adhere to their counter-project delivered to Duvelaer on April 26, 1754, except in regard to article 5, on which new proposals are now made.

The English Company have never sought to enhance their dominions. They are compelled to such a proposal by the French insisting upon holding Valudavur and Villiyanallur. As to

article 4, the Companies differ in their conception of the laws and customs of the Moghal Empire. The English do not admit that the Nawab of Arcot is rightfully subject or even subordinate to the Subahdar of the Deccan. Nizam-ul-mulk's interference was merely based upon superior power, at the very time when he was not obeying the Emperor. In any case he was acting not as Subahdar of the Deccan but as the Vizir of the Emperor. Muzaffar Jang was declared Subahdar by the French and never confirmed. Salabat Jang was similarly appointed by them and certainly had not been confirmed at the end of 1752 when Ghazi-ud-din Khan was sent against them. Moreover he is so notoriously under the French influence that his nomination of any Nawab of Arcot could not be distinguished from the nomination by the French themselves.

As regards article 5, the French grants in the Deccan were made by Muzaffar Jang who was never confirmed as Subahdar. The French title is therefore only that of forcible occupation, in consequence of an usurper's grant. Whereas the English claim to Divi consists in a grant of 1716 from the Emperor himself. The English conceive that they may consistently with the national peace take measures to get possession of a country rightfully theirs. If the French seek nothing more than their commercial interests, these are fully secured by the 5th article as proposed on April 24. As the English are still anxious for peace, they now put forward a new draft of article 5. What they are determined to resist is the establishment of new fortresses in the Deccan which have no relation to trade.

REVISED 5TH ARTICLE OF THE TREATY BY THE FRENCH IN 1754. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol.* 1, *copy in English, pp.* 139–140, *copy in French, pp.* 141–142*: also in Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 58, *pp.* 263—266.]

As several European nations have factories at Masulipatam and carry on a free trade in the neighbouring country, its exclusive possession by any one Company may prejudice others. The French therefore out of a desire for peace consent to evacuate Masulipatam and Divi Island with the surrounding countries reserving however the right to occupy two other settlements with territories adjoining them of about 4 leagues in extent. If these settlements and the attached territory can be agreed upon by the Agents of the two Companies on the Coast, the French will at once deliver to the Subahdar of the Deccan all other concessions

provided he shall have acceded to the treaty. If no agreement can be made in India, the matter is to be reported to Europe for settlement.

THE 5TH ARTICLE OF TREATY AS REVISED BY THE ENGLISH. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol. I, pp.* 151–152 *(copy,* 2 *pp.): also in Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 58, *pp.* 273–274.]

As there are several European factories at Masulipatam and as its exclusive possession by any one Company is likely to create jealousy, the English and French agree to resign all claims to the city of Masulipatam, Divi Island and the surrounding territories, reserving to themselves the factories they had before the last war, and what new factories they may erect in Tanjore, the Coromandel Coast or the Deccan, provided that they do not by their extent, situation, revenues or other profits prejudice the trade of other nations, and that they are not so fortified or garrisoned as to intimidate the Indian government. The resignation of all claims to Masulipatam and the Divi Island is on the condition that no other European nations shall attempt to procure a grant of the said territories.

LETTER FROM HOLDERNESSE TO THE DUKE OF MIREPOIX. LONDON, NOVEMBER 19, 1754. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol. I, pp.* 153–154 *(copy,* 2 *pp.): also in Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 58, *pp.* 275–277.]

Explains delay in replying to letter of September 16. The English Government and Company both desire a just and lasting agreement. Enclose copy of the reply of the English committee. As to article 4, some historical facts are set out to explain why the English insist upon the recognition of Muhammad Ali Khan.

Revised article 5 provides all facilities for forming commercial settlements in the Deccan, but the erection of fortresses cannot be regarded with indifference. Has just seen the French commissaries who have desired a new draft of article 4, as well as of article 5. Has therefore drawn up a new plan[1] of the former omitting such expressions as might cause dispute and proposing that the test of a new Nawab's legal possession should be the Emperor's confirmation.

[1] Not in the volume.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO [GEORGE PIGOT, ETC.,] COUNCIL AT MADRAS. LONDON, APRIL 16, 1755. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 58, *p.* 109 *(original,* 1 *page).*]

The Secret Committee for the ensuing season consists of Roger Drake, Peter Godfrey, Christopher Burrow, John Payne and Jones Raymond. The British and French armaments are ready to sail. Apprehend war. The French have received news from Pondichery that the Moghal Emperor has been dethroned and another placed in his stead. If this is true, the Council should co-operate with other presidencies to secure the Company's trade, rights and privileges, and counteract the artful designs of the French.

DESPATCH FROM THE SECRET COMMITTEE TO THOMAS SAUNDERS, ETC., SELECT COMMITTEE AT MADRAS. LONDON, APRIL 16, 1755. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol. I, pp.* 159–160 *(copy,* 1½ *pp.)*]

Need not wait for advices from Bombay. On the *Dodington's* arrival at Madras, officers and men for Bombay should at once be sent thither on her if no other ships are available.

DESPATCH FROM THE SECRET COMMITTEE TO THE SELECT COMMITTEE AT BOMBAY. LONDON, APRIL 25, 1755. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol. I, pp.* 155–157 *(copy,* 3 *pp.).*]

As the *Dragon* will probably reach Bombay before the other Bombay ships, send by her copies of the Company's despatch and plan of operations. Copies of correspondence relating to the plan must be sent to the Select Committee at Madras to enable them to co-operate with Bombay. As His Majesty has granted a commission of Lieutenant-Colonel to Robert Clive, there is no need to confer on him any Company's commission. Hear from France that the Marathas have brought about a revolution at Delhi. Advantage should be taken of this opportunity to secure the rights and privileges of the English Company and to prevent the French intrigues.

THE MADRAS DESPATCHES, 1755-1756.

DESPATCH FROM GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, OCTOBER 27, 1755. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 21, *pp.* 33—85 *(copy,* 53 *pp.). Damaged in parts: also incomplete.*]

[This goes by the *Hardwicke.*] [*First* 8 *paragraphs are missing.*] There are frequent cases of deficiencies in rice cargoes due to thefts by the boat people and even by those set to watch them. [*Portion lost.*] The missing parts of the powder-mill by the *Onslow,* overcarried to China, have since been forwarded hither. Regarding Madeira wine, 3 pipes were entirely lost owing to defects in the casks. The Commander is required to pay for the leakage of 2 more due to bad stowage. Trading guns, etc., undisposed of at Madagascar have been duly delivered. [*Portion lost.*] Advances to ships' captains. The instructions for the despatch of a ship in September will be complied with. As much surplus saltpetre as can be taken at half-freight will be loaded on the *Hardwicke.* [*Portion damaged.*] A large number of Coast ships will be returned this season with saltpetre tonnage, surplus Malabar pepper, etc. Expect to provide about February a full cargo of bales. The *London* and *Anson* reached the Coast in September. The Bombay soldiers have been returned thither on the *Protector.* The *Prince George* will remain in the Negrais till relieved by a Bengal ship. The *Cuddalore* sloop, the *Arcot* snow, and the *Mary* schooner, are also there. The *Dragoon* sloop, stranded on the Cuddalore bar, but was got off and repaired. Have given up the *Porto Bello* sloop, as lost. In June last an Embden ship, *Prince Henry of Prussia,* Captain Mathew Clinckaart Commander, 600 tons, anchored at St. Thomé and then here for refreshments, wood and water, which were supplied, but her supracargoes were plainly informed that no traffic would be allowed. After 2 or 3 days' stay she sailed for Bengal, disposing of her cargo to the French at Masulipatam. Suspect the chief supracargo Young to be an Englishman though he called himself a Spaniard.

Have been unable to dispose of the woollen goods. Between April and September they were put up 5 times at outcry, but only 260 out of 2,000 bales were sold, although an offer was made

to take off the whole by contract. There is no prospect of selling the remaining bales unless the system is altered. Bombay also complain of their inability to dispose of the quantity on hand. Two hundred and forty bales of broadcloth and 60 of long ells intended for Bombay have been sent thither on His Majesty's ships, at the usual freight of 2½ Pags. *per* bale. Broadcloth, damaged by keeping, has been ordered to be sold for what it will fetch. A few bales of broadcloth bought at the Company's sale at Calcutta were brought here for sale in May last. This was due to the variation in the price of silver at that time. Arcot rupees were 377 *per* 100 Pags., which made the Bengal invoice price 14½ *per cent.* less than the Madras price. Such opportunities however are rare. Arcot rupees fluctuate much and rose lately to 360 *per* 100 Pags. Should the Company continue for another year or two to send out large supplies of gold, believe that the value of silver will rise considerably as none is now received from the Persian Gulf, the trade being ruined, and it is likely that the imports from Manilla will also fail. Of the treasure consigned to Bengal have already forwarded 135 chests of rupees. Doubt if it will be possible to spare this owing to heavy expenses, the smaller amount of treasure sent, and the failure of the broadcloth sales. Deficiencies and damages in stores. On being gauged, 145 Madeira pipes sent out this season proved to be 479 gallons short of their proper measurement. Have landed 50 extra pipes out of the consignment for Bengal and supplied them to the Company's servants and His Majesty's squadron and regiment at 60 Pags. a pipe, i.e. at 27 *per cent.* on the invoice price. Iron sold at 15¼ and copper at 92⅞ Pags. a candy. "Barbar" copper for Bengal by the *Norfolk*, not finding a good sale here, has been sent thither. Have complied with the Bengal indent for 3,000 maunds of redwood. Hundred tons of redwood of the China sort have been provided, but owing to adverse currents which impeded the northern boats, only a small quantity could be sent by the *Bombay Castle*. Sumatra sugar has sold here at 14 Pags. a candy, i.e., higher than Batavia sugar; and Sumatra arrack at 40 Pags. a leager. Shall try to keep up the standard of coins but cannot reach the accuracy of the European mints. As the Coffrees here are all well trained and may be useful in case of war, cannot spare any for St. Helena till more peaceful times. Will comply with the instructions for preparing indents.

As regards Madras investment, the utmost efforts of Council have only succeeded in preventing a still greater decline in

quality. Could easily increase the quantity, but only at the expense of quality. The increased cost of all necessaries of life have increased the cost of labour, and this has a greater effect in India than it would in Europe, because the people here are more indolent and work slower. Besides this there is the increase in the cost of raw materials which in the present year has been 50 to 60 *per cent.* higher than before the loss of Madras. No blame therefore attaches either to Council or to merchants. After due notice, proposals were received only from 4 persons—'Yacun' [Ayyakannu] Pillai, Ponkala Narayana Chetti, Nalla Chetti and Sunku Rama. The first was unreliable; the second agreed to receive money on delivery of goods, but he has brought nothing in; the third is a Fort St. David merchant; and the fourth offers to supply only special goods which can be got at any time. So the Council was obliged to call in the old merchants who undertook an investment, although they perceived that the only motive for their employment was the impossibility of inducing other substantial merchants to undertake it. Their first supply was too bad to be accepted. Since the *Winchelsea's* despatch, have received 425½ bales of coarse and 69 of fine cloth. When called before the Board the merchants acknowledged the defects of the cloth, but pointed out that cotton was 50 *per cent.* higher than it used to be and declared that they could not provide better until the price of cotton fell. Believe that the merchants make little by the investment and that their principal motive is the reputation annexed to the title of Company's merchant and the marks of distinction allowed to them as such[1]. The Company's complaint that private trade has led to the debasement of cloth is only true in part. The merchants advise that the importation of such cloth should be discountenanced and that the different varieties should be allotted to different merchants to be provided in definite districts, so that they may not compete one with another. Though inconsistent with the Company's proposal, shall endeavour to put this plan into practice. The manufacture of soot romals having been discontinued of late, merchants are unwilling to contract for them unless the price is increased. The investment of Beteellas, Oringal and Pulicat, has been checked by caste disputes in the districts where those varieties are made, leading to the weavers' temporary desertion of their looms. The painters complain that the

[1] Cf. *Calendar of the Madras Despatches*, 1744-55, p. 241.

Bengal cloth does not take the colours so well as the Coast cloth. Suggest that ordinary moorees might be painted instead of the Bengal baftas. There are so few painters at Vizagapatam that only 400 or 500 pieces of chintz can be made there. The holes complained of in the longcloth and salampores are caused partly by their being beaten with large wooden mallets when conjeed and also by being stretched on the ground for several days to bleach. At Fort St. David, though proposals were invited, no offers were received. The Council, believing that there was a combination among the old merchants there to force their terms on the Company, contracted with Nalla Chetti, a new merchant, for 1,000 bales. Thereupon the old merchants, Irusappa and Papa Razu, agreed to provide 700 bales of longcloth and salampores, but most of what has been brought in there has been rejected in sorting; it was then offered to the French and at once bought by them. Have therefore directed the Council to be somewhat less strict in sorting, for fear of the whole investment falling into the French hands. The Salem merchants have behaved still worse; two of them having paid in their advances and refused to have any more to do with us; and the third has sent nothing. In the north, Vizagapatam has produced 606, Ingeram 137, and Madapollam 215 bales. Expect 700 more.

Regret the Company's displeasure at the dissolution of the former Secret Committee. The reason of this was that the three members never assembled together, and consequently there were perpetual delays in taking decisions. Have executed the Secret Committee's instructions of February 14. Have caused public notice to be given of the orders for the encouragement of free trade at Madras and its subordinate settlements. Believe that the island of the Negrais is unhealthy only in that part where Hunter first settled, which is surrounded by low ground under water at every high tide. Brooke was therefore directed to remove to the north-west which is reported very healthy. In April last, the shell of a brickhouse has had just been completed and an entrenchment was about to be thrown up. The settlement has already cost 59,528 Pags. and the establishment charges come to 5,000 or 6,000 Rs. a month. The island is covered with jungle but produces no very valuable timber. The soil being rich and the water good, cattle might be bred there to supply a great number of ships. Captain Grierson of the *Porto Bello* sloop, a very intelligent man in his profession, considers its harbour accessible at all times. Ships of any size may heave down in smooth water,

but only small ships can be hauled ashore. If peace were restored in Pegu, materials for ship-building could easily be procured, and the place might probably become a centre for ship-building. Revenue might in time arise from cultivation of the soil and import customs, but the main advantage would be the sale of woollen goods to the Burmese. The Peguers, now in power, are averse to trade and are oppressive even in peaceful times. But the Burmese are a commercial race; perpetuanoes formerly were disposed of at great profits; and greater quantities could be sold if sent on the Company's account and offered at lower rates. A settlement at Persaim or some other place up the Syrian river would facilitate trade and the duties that might be collected there would counterbalance its cost, for the shipping which now goes to Syrian would undoubtedly prefer to import at a place under English rule. The main difficulty is the prolonged war between the Peguers and the Burmese and the improbability of peace. The King of Pegu has all along been jealous of our settlement, and although he has promised the grant of some place on the Syrian river, he will never do so if he can help it. The French are much favoured by him, for they supply him with arms, etc., and Bruno, the French Resident at Syrian, was made the Governor there when the Burmese threatened the place. It is believed that a small European force would suffice to establish the Burmese in the country, but the troubles in the Carnatic have prevented the English from assisting them. Till the Company's orders are received, the English policy must depend altogether on circumstances. Do not believe that either Griffin or Barnet ever visited the Negrais.

Represent the inconvenience of the Company's giving their Engineer-General special orders of which the Council are ignorant, as in the case of Scott's survey of the harbour at Vizagapatam. He claimed complete independence of the Council. After his return from Bengal, his general conversation betrayed a great prejudice against the Company's servants. For example, he accused the Storekeeper[1] of supplying timber, etc., at his own price when in fact the timber thus supplied only amounted to 87 Pags. Scott's warmth doubtless arose from honest zeal for the Company's service, but that seems to have occasioned the Company's severe censures of November 29. Acknowledge that some irregularities have arisen owing to the Council's multifarious business, but beg

[1] Boddam-Brohier.

the Company not to accept unproved reports to their disadvantage. Before the receipt of Company's orders, had already called for tenders for the supply of building materials, but without effect. These have been again invited, but, none being made, a committee has been appointed for their provision. The report of the Committee appointed to enquire into Scott's accusations of the Paymaster shows that the Paymaster's gain on the exchange of pagodas into fanams was greatly exaggerated. Have paid Brohier his arrears, which had been withheld owing to a misunderstanding of the Company's orders. Have had great pleasure in granting Call an additional allowance of 30 Pags. a month, besides his allowance as a covenanted servant of 10 Pags. a month. All the other engineers who came out with Robins are dead except O'Hara who is in Bengal. Achilles Preston, whom Robins appointed, has joined the military service. He has served well in that branch and desires to continue in it. On Brohier's recommendation, have sanctioned a masonry bridge over the channel in the Island formed during the 1750 flood, at a cost of 8,000 Pags. All workmen and coolies are on this work which is progressing. The barracks are almost completed. The Council cannot approve the orders to levy on the inhabitants a special tax to meet the cost of fortifying the Black Town. 'The wealthy inhabitants in the Black Town are very few indeed, compared with those before the loss of this settlement, and a general decline of trade (most severely felt by us all) renders it infinitely more difficult to acquire riches or even a maintenance than formerly. It is on these only that a tax could be laid (for the poorer sort of people are so extremely indigent; that a tax on them would take from their daily bread which already is barely sufficient to support life), and it must be so heavy to raise anything considerable that we do verily believe it would occasion many of the inhabitants to leave the bounds,' as they could receive no immediate advantage, and the works of the Fort must be first attended to. The house now used as a townhall is small and inconvenient, but the necessary works will take some time to complete; and the building of a new townhall had better be deferred. In regard to Father Severini's claim to the Vepery church, the extract from the will of Coja Petrus Uscan already sent home, is conclusive. Cannot trace the ownership of the Portuguese church in the White Town. Believe that it was originally built and maintained by subscription among the Roman Catholic inhabitants. In 1721, it had fallen into decay, but was rebuilt by a

subscription of the Roman Catholics[1]; and until it was demolished in 1750, it was managed by the Capuchin fathers. Regarding the houses claimed by Balleu and Jeronimo de Yta de Salazar, these were confiscated merely because they went to live at Pondichery during the French occupation. As the Governor of Manilla has made pressing demands regarding Salazar's house, recommend that both may be restored to the owners rather than risk the valuable trade with Manilla by a refusal. Have let the farms at outcry for one year. The various farms were let out at outcry as follows:—Devikottai farm to Robert Orme and John Smith for 4,200 Pags. (formerly 6,000 Pags.); St. Thomé to Mirza Muhammad Kasim for 3,150 Pags. (formerly 4,000); Poonamallee country and jaghir to Numboor Venkatasubbayya for 52,400 Pags. (formerly 48,200); ruby brokerage to Linga Chetti for 305 Pags. (formerly 500); Tiruvottiyur, etc., to the same for 1,300 Pags. (as before); Egmore, etc., to the same for 1,250 Pags. (formerly 1,450); Perambur, etc., to Rausam Venkatachala Papa for 1,206 Pags. (formerly 700). Of the countries mortgaged by the Nawab for the discharge of his debt, Covelong is let to Pushpanatha Nayanar for 8,000 Pags.; Manimangalam to the same for 14,000 Pags.; and the Seven Maganams to Rayal Pandit for 20,000 Pags.

Consider that Dawsonne Drake was really sick at the time he was ordered to Sumatra. As regards Heath, he may be useful as a writer but never as an engineer. John Starke's name has been struck off the list of servants; and George Dawson was sent to Fort St. David instead of him. Edwards, the Assaymaster, being of indifferent health, Alexander Dalrymple was appointed his assistant to learn the art of assaying. Edwards at first refused to instruct him, but on being punished with suspension, he repented and promised to behave better. Recommend Henry Vansittart whom the Company have appointed as Secretary to the Select Committee, as having a laborious employ without any corresponding advantages. Have increased Dupré's allowances as the fees accruing from his office as Public Secretary are inadequate to his labour. Charles Bourchier has been permitted to proceed to Bombay on private affairs and Charles Smith has gone to China for his health. Have no complaints to make of the conduct of the Company's servants in general. A copy of the Standing Orders from 1664 to 1753 has been sent in two batches. The large balances which appear in the Sea Customer's hands are due to the

[1] See Love's *Vestiges*, vol. ii, p. 205.

ancient practice of merchants paying the customs on goods imported only in the month following their import, while such outstandings are shown as received. Will in future show the balance actually held in cash and the account of outstanding customs.

The Select Committee after due enquiry into Colonel Heron's conduct charged him with misappropriating large sums that should have been brought to Company's accounts. The Council suspended him; but before this, he had already applied for a court-martial which will sit in a few days. The charges against him are that he perverted the intention of his commission, that he collected bazaar duties, and that he disobeyed orders. From the Act for punishing mutiny, etc., in the East Indies, it is not clear whether an officer can be deprived of his commission by any authority except that of a court-martial. Have detained the recruits for Bengal, but will forward them should peace be confirmed. Have returned the Bombay detachment at the urgent request of that presidency. Will send regular muster rolls of the military every year. As to the proposal to open a fund for widows of the military, the pay of the common soldiers will not admit of any deduction, nor can any considerable sum be raised from so small a corps of officers, especially Lieutenants and Ensigns who receive a bare subsistence, but will consider at leisure whether anything can be done in this affair. With the recruits of this year, two new companies were formed, one under the command of Captain William Lee, of Bombay, and the other under Captain Timothy Bridge sent out for Bengal. They were given commissions on June 16 and 17, respectively.

Brooke Samson, Dugald Campbell, and Edward Frith who arrived with brevets for the first vacant lieutenancies, have been promoted Lieutenants. Randfurlie Knox and Robert Bannatyne who arrived with brevets to be promoted after Ensign David Blake, and Volunteer Michael Burk, have been promoted ensigns.

In the Artillery, Benjamin Godwin was promoted 1st Lieutenant of the 1st Company; John Dickinson 1st Lieutenant of the 2nd Company; Robert Barker 2nd Lieutenant of the 1st Company; John Francis Paschoud 2nd Lieutenant of the 2nd Company; William Jennings, 3rd Lieutenant of the 1st Company; Jonathan Brooke 3rd Lieutenant of the 2nd Company; and Lieutenant William Jennings, Adjutant of Artillery. John Fabry has been given an Ensign's brevet for Sumatra. Lieutenant David, Baron de Vasserot, of Zeigler's Company has been permitted to return to

Europe. Lieutenant John Conrad de Peyer, of Polier's Swiss Company, who was desperately wounded in an action near Trichinopoly, losing one of his eyes, has been granted a gratuity of 200 Pags. and permitted to return to Europe. In his vacancy, Ensign Conrad Zeigler has been promoted Lieutenant; and Volunteer Leonard Parrot Ensign. Lieutenant Lawrence Merryman has resigned on account of ill-health. Lieutenant George Patterson, who was made prisoner by the French, is believed to have purposely thrown himself in their way, for on the conclusion of an arrangement for the exchange of officers, he proceeded to Batavia instead of returning here. His name has therefore been struck off as a deserter.

Two thousand two hundred and seventy-four pieces of damaged cloth in the Export Warehouse were sold at a loss of 1,200 Pags. Thomas Taylor was allowed 20 Pags. a month during his stay at the Negrais, but has died. Robert Westgarth, Resident at Syrian, can produce no vouchers for sums charged as presents to the King of Pegu, alleging that most of his papers were destroyed by fire. Have allowed what was considered reasonable. Dawsonne Drake reports that he delivered to Saunders his accounts of money issued to Schaub's company at Pondichery, but never received them back. The matter has been referred to the Committee of Accounts. George Pigot, Orme, Wynch, John Walsh, James Alexander, and James Bourchier, have been appointed a Committee of Accounts. But there has been too much work in Council for them to have yet submitted more than one report. John Stratton's heirs have discharged his debt due on the Vizagapatam books. Have paid the balance of John Trenwith's estate to his brother (a midshipman of one of the Company's ships) who had taken out letters of administration; the interest up to April 1 on the China Jesuits' money; the proceeds due to the Charity school; the principal due to Peter Dencker; and an instalment of 1,200 Pags. to John Gray. The Accountant reporting that the Madras books had never been adjusted with those of the subordinate factories since the loss of that place, he has been ordered to adjust them accordingly. The trustees of Solomon Salomons, who has declared himself bankrupt, claim 2,000 Rs. under a certificate dated November 2, 1746. Captain d'Illens has repaid the £250 advanced him in England.

Sumatra affairs.

Henry Vansittart resigned his aldermanship, as his work as Secretary to the Select Committee was heavy. In his place, Samuel Ardley has been appointed.

The Squadron left for Bombay on October 10.

Supplement.—Captain Samson reports that the young lady whom he took on board went ashore at Madeira. Lieutenant Lawrence Merryman and Lieutenant John Conrad Peyer sail by this ship, but the usual permission money was not demanded from them. Lieutenant Baron de Vasserot has been permitted to sail on a French ship where accommodation can be had at a quarter of the cost. Permission money is generally considered a hardship. 'To a person returning with a fortune it is nothing, but for one that leaves India in such circumstances there are ten who do it through some necessity or other.' Have loaded on this ship 51 tons of saltpetre at half freight and 874 bales to complete her tonnage. The Madras invoice amounts to 89,438 Pags. and the Bengal invoice to 5,53,535 Rs. Diamonds, etc., registered amount to 1,53,630 Pags. Suspect that large quantities of diamonds are sent without being registered by the captains of the shipping. Captain Samson being distressed for men, 3 wounded soldiers have been discharged and sent aboard. His brother, Brook Samson, Lieutenant of Grenadiers, has been permitted to resign and to join him as his chief mate. In the Treasury, the balance on hand is 111 pounds of silver, 27,562 Pags., 7,68,253 Arcot Rs., 8,235 Madras Pags.; and in the cash chest, 39,991 Pags.

Postscript.—The bills drawn on the Company amount to 662 Pags.

Appended are.—(1) register of diamonds (pp. 87—97); (2) Captain Samson's bond (p. 97); (3) lists of the packet (pp. 98–103); and (4) sailing orders for Captain John Samson of the *Hardwicke*, dated October 27, 1755 (p. 104).

DESPATCH FROM GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., TO THE SECRET COMMITTEE. FORT ST. GEORGE, OCTOBER 27, 1755. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 19, *pp.* 85—98 (*copy* 14 *pp. damaged and incomplete*).]

Cite despatch of March 8, 1755. According to the Company's orders of February 12, 1755, will, in future, address the Secret Committee on the following subjects:—military operations, the Nawab's debt, the political situation, H.M's. squadron, H.M's. troops, and foreign nations in India.

Heron marched for Madura on February 23 and reached that place on March 3. By his reports [had reason to hope that the expedition would produce considerable sums of money.] [*Passage defective.*] So, in order to avoid the expense of keeping troops longer in the field, ordered Heron on March 26 to leave 1,000 sepoys with Mahfuz Khan and to return at once. A few days later news came that the Mysoreans had left Srirangam; it was thought that they perhaps intended to assist the rebellious poligars against the English, so, on April 3, Heron was ordered to return to Trichinopoly without delay. Heron meanwhile had marched without opposition from Madura to Tinnevelly, whence he sent out Captains Lee and Beaver with two parties. These compelled the poligars against whom they were sent to settle their accounts with very little loss. On April 19 Heron received the orders of April 3, but did not March till May 2, and even then at the request of Mahfuz Khan, he turned aside to attack the poligar, Pulithever, the only one who had not made his submission. But, after remaining three days before the poligar's fort, he found it impossible to take without heavy guns, and doubtful even with them; so he proceeded to Madura and thence to Trichinopoly, where he arrived on June 6, having lost part of his baggage in an attack by the Kallars in the Nattam Pass. By the last advices Mahfuz Khan is still in possession of the Madura and Tinnevelly countries, although the rebels have recently obtained an advantage against him. [*Defective passage*]. An enquiry was held on Heron's conduct; he was suspended in consequence from his seat in Council; he has applied for a court-martial which will sit in a few days. Send copies of the correspondence with Heron in the field, of his journal, and of the proceedings in the enquiry.

When the troops were rested, they marched under the command of Captain Polier to escort the Nawab to Arcot, where he made 'a splendid entry' on August 21. He came to Madras on August 28, escorted by the troop of horse and two companies of sepoys. The rest of the army is quartered at Arcot and batta has been taken off. When at Madras the Nawab urgently requested military assistance to oblige the Arcot poligars to settle their accounts. These chiefs never pay their tribute unless troops are sent against them; and, as most of the Nawab's forces have for some years been at Trichinopoly, the Arcot poligars are heavily in arrears. Have resolved to send a force under Major Killpatrick to support the Nawab's authority, as it is believed that

the Company will obtain thereby more than the cost of the expedition. [*Defective passage*]. [Urged the Nawâb to transfer the management of certain countries to the Company]; but he objected on the score of loss of dignity; he has promised to retrench his expenses in order to pay off the Company's debt. The Committee finally agreed to accept the countries of Puneri and Pedipatoo (where the Company's fine cloths are made) which are worth about 30,000 pagodas a year on the same terms as Chingleput, with orders for 8 lakhs of rupees on the renters of the Arcot countries, payable half in May and half in September, 1756; the rents of Puneri and Pedipatoo for the current year are to go to the Nawab. In order to secure for the Company a proportionate share of the rents at which the Arcot countries may in future be let out, the Nawab has promised to report when any countries are about to be leased, so that the Company's share may be settled before the cowle is given; and, as much of the Arcot countries is leased by the principal inhabitants of Madras, by whom a great part of the 8 lakhs is to be paid, expect to get orders for a larger sum next year. The Nawab has also promised:—half the revenues of Madura and Tinnevelly (but he expects nothing at present owing to the cost of troops to subdue the rebels), and half the tribute paid by all the poligars under him. In order to make sure of accurate information about the settlements made with the Arcot poligars, have appointed William Percival (a member of the Committee) to accompany the Nawab and be present at all transactions with the poligars or their vakils, and to receive the Company's half of their tribute. He will also control the expenditure involved in the expedition.

The Commandant at Trichinopoly represented that provisions were so scarce and dear there that the men could not live on their bare pay, and were much discontented at the striking off of their batta. They were accordingly granted half-batta. By September 1, however, provisions had got somewhat cheaper; and Caillaud was able to reduce the sepoys' allowance to one-third of their full batta. At the same time their field batta was reduced to two-thirds of the old rate. This regulation has been extended to all the sepoys in the Company's service, and will apply to those going on the poligar expedition. [*Passage wanting.*] In future the Nawab is to find money for the repairs of his forts garrisoned by the English.

His government remains very unsettled, for at least half the province of Arcot is in French hands. This diminishes alike

his credit and revenue. Also several killedars, etc., pretend independence, the chief being Murtaza Ali Khan. Shall assist the Nawab to reduce these people to submission as far as circumstances permit. In March Salabat Jang with a large army and the French under Bussy entered Mysore, and did not depart till he had collected—according to report—33 lakhs of rupees. He is now at Hyderabad. Some time ago a vakil was sent to him with a letter; but there is as yet no news of his arrival. The Mysoreans withdrew from Srirangam in the latter part of March, no doubt on account of Salabat Jang's incursion. [*Defective passage.*] The King of Tanjore insisting on the restitution of lands seized by the Maravan poligar at the beginning of the war, the lands were restored by English mediation. The King is now demanding that Tondiman shall restore two forts made over to him by Manoji in return for his assistance in some joint enterprise. The King threatens to disgrace Manoji unless he recovers the forts: the Tondiman resolutely refuses to part with them; and there is some risk of war. Are endeavouring to settle the dispute.

The squadron sailed for Trincomalee on April 6, returned to Fort St. David on May 13, [*defective passage*], and sailed for Bombay [October] 10. In May Adlercron revived the old dispute by complaining of a regimental court-martial being held at Cuddalore and its sentence being carried to Starke, the Deputy Governor, for confirmation. He claimed to command in Cuddalore because that place is at a distance from Fort St. David. In July he put the commandants of Fort St. David and Cuddalore under arrest for not publishing a garrison order of his before it had been seen by Starke. In reply to the Committee's representations, he has sent the opinion of his Council of War and retracted his promise not to interfere in the Company's garrisons. His language is unbecoming, and his claims are such as would reduce the Company's privileges within a very small compass. [*Paragraphs* 28 *to end very defective.*]

DESPATCH FROM GEORGE PIGOT AND SELECT COMMITTEE AT MADRAS TO THE SECRET COMMITTEE. FORT ST. GEORGE, MARCH 1, 1756. [*Military Despatches to England, Vol.* 1, *pp.* 1—23 (*copy* 23 *pp.*).]

Cite despatch of October 27, 1755. This goes by the *Eastcourt.*

The army under Major Killpatrick sent to help the Nawab in recovering his dues from the Arcot poligars, left Tiruppasur, on

October 20, 1755, and first marched towards Bangaru Yachamma Nayakan's palaiyam; but as that poligar was not refractory, the army merely encamped outside its limits at Killenore till November 17. On the Nawab's finishing his business there, the army then marched on November 23 into Bommarazupalaiyam where it stayed for a whole month. The reduction of the minor poligars was left to the Nawab's country forces. The army returned to Arcot on December 31 where it was quartered and batta discontinued. By reason of De Leyrit's threats, Killpatrick was ordered 'to repulse force by force' should the French support the Arcot poligars. Fortunately, they did not do so. In order to support the Nawab's negotiations with Murtaza Ali Khan, Faujdar of Vellore, (the richest chief in the province), Killpatrick was first reinforced by the company of grenadiers with 2 eighteen-pounders and then by Captain Campbell's company. On January 28, 1756, the army marched to Vellore, and as Killpatrick found the place to be very strong, it was decided not to attack but only to intimidate the Faujdar. On January 31, Pigot got another letter from De Leyrit disputing the Nawab's right over Vellore and threatening to oppose the Company's intervention. At the same time news was received from Fort St. David that 300 Frenchmen and 300 sepoys had left Pondichery. This news was at once communicated to Killpatrick with orders to summon the French to retire, and, if they refused, to attack them. Killpatrick was within cannon shot of Vellore, when this news reached him, and hearing nothing of the approach of the French, he remained in his encampment negotiating with the Faujdar. Further news was received of the French movements in the direction of Vellore. The Committee feared that a party of French troops might be admitted into the fort, in which case it would have been difficult ever to expel them. At the same time, the Faujdar's vakil made overtures for an accommodation. Orme therefore was deputed to negotiate with the Faujdar by reason of his knowledge of the Moors language, and he set out on February 8, 1756, for Vellore. On February 9, the Faujdar, finding that the English army remained under the walls of Vellore, agreed with Killpatrick to pay 1,00,000 Pags. and 25,000 Rs. for the removal of the troops and paid 20,000 Rs. earnest money. The Committee at once ratified and returned the agreement. But Orme's arrival led the Faujdar to suppose that better terms could be got, and on the 11th he refused to fulfil his agreement with Killpatrick. Orme arrived in camp that day, sent word to the Faujdar that the business for which he came having been finished, he could not interfere, and

at once left for Arcot. The Faujdar then refused to treat with any one but Orme. Orme therefore returned and held a conference with the Faujdar on February 15. The latter flatly denied his agreement with Killpatrick. Orme impressed on him the advantage of friendship with the English and the danger of his dependence on the French. But the Faujdar was immovable. Orme returned to Madras on February 22; and Killpatrick, remaining a little longer, returned to Arcot on February 24, as the Committee considered it better to await another opportunity rather than relax their demands. All this time 700 Frenchmen and 1,500 sepoys lay between Gingee and Chetpattu, some 35 miles from Vellore.

Percival who accompanied the Nawab in his expedition against the Arcot poligars succeeded in securing the proper share on the Company's account. Bangaru Yachamma Nayakan settled for 1,40,000 Rs. one half of which was received on the Company's account. Bommarazu settled for 2,37,000 Rs., for which he gave two sowcars' bills for 97,000 Rs. One of these, amounting to 45,000, has been discharged but the other has not; nor has the poligar yet paid the rest of his obligations. Killpatrick advises however that he is likely to do so. On the expedition against the Arcot poligars, the receipts far exceeded the charges. But the Vellore expedition cost much more than the 20,000 Rs. received; the Committee hope later on to be able to call the Faujdar to account. Hitherto some sepoys have been paid by the Company's Paymaster, and the rest by the Commissary on the Nawab's account. Have ordered that all sepoys in future shall be charged to the Nawab. Major Killpatrick's batta has been raised from 5 to 8 Pags. a day to enable him to maintain attendants, linguists, dubashes, and other servants. The reduction of the sepoys' batta was carried out without trouble. As the Nawab now advances money for repairs to the country forts before their execution, the Company in future will be freed from such expenses. Hostages left at Trichinopoly by Heron declare that they stood surety for only half the sum, not the whole, as the Committee supposed. On Caillaud's advice, it has been decided to release them on payment of the half for which they admit responsibility. Caillaud has been desired to take security for the balance. Mahfuz Khan has delayed payment of his balance of 1,21,000 Rs. under the pretext of his heavy expenses in defending the country against the poligars; and he now says that he requires the Nawab's authority, for payment. Thitharappa Mudali, a Tinnevelly merchant, offered to rent the country for 12 lakhs of rupees; but as the Nawab doubts the capacity of a private merchant to collect revenues

in so turbulent a country, the Mudali has been summoned to Madras to explain his plan.

The Nawab's authority is now well established in the province, although the French hold much of it. Murtaza Ali Khan of Vellore, Nizar Muhammad Khan of Chetpattu, and Mir Sahib of Elavanasur are the only chiefs who remain practically independent. Mir Sahib threatened to call in the French if any troops were sent against him. Muhammad Khan would probably do the same although we have 20 men in his fort. It is not safe to attempt to reduce them by force so long as an army of French is in their neighbourhood. If an opportunity occurs, they shall be brought into the Nawab's obedience. Hear that Salabat Jang with Bussy and the French troops are marching to the 'Barad' country, i.e., Berar, 150 leagues north of Hyderabad. Bussy is reported to intend marching on Delhi. The French base all their pretensions on Salabat Jang's right over the Deccan. But this right cannot be admitted in the face of the fact that, on Nasir Jang's death, the Moghal appointed Ghazi-ud-din Khan and then his son Shawab-ud-din Khan as Subahdar of the Deccan. Salabat Jang is supported by nothing but French arms. In fact the Marathas would be more than a match for the whole Empire if Europeans did not intervene. Balaji Rao has twice attacked Salabat Jang and wrested territory from him in spite of his French allies.

As the despatch by the *Dodington* had not arrived, the Committee had only a vague idea of the Company's design in sending out the troops to Bombay, and so wrote to the Bombay Committee for definite information. It is supposed that the projected alliance with the Marathas is designed to drive the French out of the Deccan. This is essential to the Company's success. So long as the French continue in the Deccan, they can always intervene on the affairs of the Carnatic. Believe there is great probability of success, as Bourchier reports that he can at any time enter into a firm alliance with the Marathas. As definite news may be expected shortly from Europe, all preparations shall be made to take up the scheme, so that immediate action will be possible if there is war, and the execution of the articles facilitated if there is to be peace. Are endeavouring to find a suitable person to send as vakil to Delhi. Have advised the Nawab to accept the offer of a defensive alliance made by the Nawab of Cuddapah. In Mysore, Nandi Raja has stirred up a rebellion against the King. The King of Tanjore actually sent forces against the Tondiman in spite of English offers of arbitration, and would have attacked him but for

want of money. As the Truce prevented the English from helping him, in his annoyance he treated Newton, the Resident, with disrespect. Newton was therefore recalled and the King was informed that he needed English help as much as they needed his. He is now more reasonable and seems disposed to await our assistance to recover his territory from the Tondiman. Mahfuz Khan reports from Tinnevelly that the poligar troubles are increasing and that he needs European help. Are considering what help to send. Mahfuz Khan has force sufficient to prevent the countries from falling meanwhile into other hands.

The Squadron reached Bombay between November 8 and 10, 1755. Hear that Watson will co-operate in the projected attack on Gheria. Accidents in heaving down ships delayed the sailing of the expedition till the middle of February. Believe that the troubles with Adlercron are due to his not having received the command of the small expeditions recently sent out. Lieutenant Colonel Bagshaw remained some time after Heron's court-martial and complained of not having received any command. The Committee considered his proper station to be with the King's regiment. On the movements of the French, Adlercron was desired to hold his regiments in readiness to march. He demanded a table, horse, and palankin, transport for his baggage, horses for his adjutants and quartermasters, medicines for his surgeons, and the maintenance of his sick in the Company's hospital. The Committee agreed to meet monthly bills for the cost of the table, to keep his horse and palankin, with horses for the adjutants and quartermasters, to supply medicines on the surgeons' paying for them, and to receive the sick in the Company's hospital, their charges being paid as in Boscawen's case. On January 3, 1756, he issued an order that Cuddalore and all the outguards at Fort St. David should receive orders only from him. The Committee pointed out to him the evil consequences of this attack on the Company's authority. On the day the order was published, 10 Swiss deserted, and Schaub, their commander, made no report to the Deputy Governor till late next day. A few days later the same officer visited Pondichery, without even informing the Deputy Governor. A court-martial was therefore demanded on him. He demanded as a Swiss to be tried only by Swiss laws, but offered to submit to a court-martial consisting only of His Majesty's officers. Are not aware how the Swiss privileges affect the matter in question and have sought information from Captain Polier. Adlercron having run short of money, the Committee offered money for bills to be

paid in England at the rate prescribed by the Company. He preferred, however, to borrow at 8 *per cent. per annum*. The King's Regiment is ready to take the field whenever necessary.

Two ships from France arrived at Pondichery in January, bringing out d'Auteuil and about 200 recruits. Refer to the French correspondence regarding the respective rights of the Nawab and Salabat Jang.[1] A personal conference between the two Governors at Madurantakam has been proposed to settle the disputes.[2] The French Commissaries are purposely dragging on the negotiations regarding the contested districts. Hearing from Engineer Call that the French are fortifying Villiyanallur and Porto Novo, the Committee have summoned De Leyrit to reduce them to their former state. Fairfield and Call have been ordered to report on alleged French and Dutch encroachments in a village near Porto Novo.

Supplement: In consequence of irregularities in the payment of recruits, General Regulations were drawn up on November 27 and have since been amplified. This has led to the reformation of certain abuses. Captain Spears, commandant at Devikottai, is alleged to have received 600 Rs. from the Subahdars on his arrival there, The matter will be enquired into. Propose to fix the strength of each English company at 94 privates, making 112 inclusive of officers. The Regulations of 1748 fixed the strength at 84 inclusive of officers; but that number is so much less than the strength of the Swiss Companies, that the English Captains thought themselves slighted.

Colonel Clive has offered his services on the expedition against Angria. Have recommended to the Select Committee at Bombay to keep him there until receipt of definite news from Europe, as he is the properest person to command against the French in the Deccan. De Leyrit in a recent letter contends that the Truce is confined to the Carnatic, and that while the French are at liberty to help Salabat Jang in the Deccan, the English may not help Muhammad Ali in the south. This argument would justify immediate English interference in the Deccan. Have therefore recommended to the Bombay Committee immediately to undertake the projected expedition to remove the French influence from Salabat Jang.

[1] The English claimed that under the Provisional Treaty of 1754 they were entitled to assist Muhammad Ali to collect tribute from the poligars dependent on the Nawab of Arcot; the French argued that only Salabat Jang could say who was Nawab of Arcot. The French Correspondence forms Military Sundry Books in the Madras Records.

[2] About the right to certain villages in the Karunguli taluk.

DESPATCH FROM GEORGE PIGOT, &C., COUNCIL AT MADRAS, TO THE COMPANY, FORT ST. GEORGE. MARCH 2, 1756. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 21, *pp.* 105–147 (*copy* 43 *pp.*) *Incomplete.*]

[*Paragraphs* 1—14 *missing.*]

Have desired Bengal to send saltpetre to complete the September ship if necessary. The *Prince George*, guard and storeship at the Negrais, must be sent to Bengal to be refitted and will have to be relieved by a hired ship. The *Hartop* snow, is engaged for the Sumatra service. The *Arcot* snow, bound for the Negrais with stores, was driven by a storm up the river to Syrian where she was for some time detained by the King of Pegu to guard the place against the Burmese. In again endeavouring to reach the Negrais she was driven off by another storm and is now refitting at Vizagapatam. The *Cuddalore* sloop, will make only one more voyage to the Negrais and then must be refitted at Vizagapatam. There are at the Negrais the *Fortune* sloop, and another small vessel. The *Dragon* sloop, is employed on the Coast service.

Have already represented that the sale of woollen goods is being prejudiced by the present methods. Continue in the same opinion. Fear now that it will be difficult to restore the former state of things. Recommend that for some time no more cloth be sent out than can be helped. The Council will endeavour to sell as much as possible and will indent for only as much as the market will bear. In October nothing could be sold; in November 66 bales were sold at about a pagoda advance, and in January, 101 bales. Lead has sold badly this year. Only 20 candies have been sold at an average of 13 Pags. 9 fns. *per* candy. Will provide redwood for the China ships. John de Roos, the Manager of the Powder Mill at Egmore both before and since Bishop's death, having offered to provide the Company with gunpowder at a cheaper rate than it has been hitherto made at, the Council agreed to give him a trial. There are other cases in which it may be more advantageous to contract for stores than to provide them on the Company's account.

Since the *Hardwicke's* despatch, have received at Madras 300 bales of coarse cloth. Middling salampores and longcloth come in better than ordinary cloth, as the terms allowed them are more favourable. As Telisinga Chetti's cloth when washed turned out very inferior, a large quantity has been rejected. Trust that this strictness in sorting will make the weavers improve their fabric. The investment in the north is greater than was expected.

Vizagapatam cloth turns out best and Madapollam comes next. Fine goods by this ship are tolerably good, except the betéellas, which would have been rejected had there not been a demand for them in Europe. Are sending samples of plain and spotted beteellas provided at Ingeram. Fort St. David has sent up 248 bales, but so late that only 25 bales of blue cloth and 18 of soot romals could be laden on this ship. Advanced 2,000 Pags. in December for soot romals to be brought into Madras. Some improvement has been made in the paintings sent, but it will take long to restore them to their former perfection. Have now in hand about 700 bales; and by September hope to have enough to fill a ship with the addition of some saltpetre from Bengal.

The Kings of Pegu and Ava continue at war. The French openly support the former. The Council do not consider it prudent to weaken their resources here by helping either. Besides, as all Eastern princes are actuated by the same principles that direct the politics of the French, 'our invidious and hereditary enemy,' it is useless to expect any other connection than arises from a community of interests. Should prefer an alliance with the Burmese who are much more commercially inclined than the Peguers, and Brooke was ordered to favour the Burmese as much as possible without offending the Peguers. Unluckily when the Burmese attacked Pegu, the King of Pegu, by the advice of Bruno, forced the English ships at Syrian to attack the Burmese from the river while he did so by land. As the whole country near the Negrais is devastated, provisions, etc., for the Negrais have still to be supplied from Bengal or the Coast. The *Arcot* snow, will take rice thither from Vizagapatam and Bengal will also send provisions. Many have died on the Island this season, but other places also have been very sickly, especially Bengal. Captain John Howes goes thither on the *Cuddalore* sloop, to relieve Brooke who has suffered much from ague. Should war continue on this Coast, it would be impossible to spare forces sufficient to establish the Burmese, and till this is done, the Negrais must remain a burden to the Company; but should peace be established here and a large expedition be sent, the French would probably do the same, and so the scene of war would only be shifted from this Coast to Pegu.

At Devikottai have allowed only the necessary repairs. Have sanctioned Colonel Scott's proposal to erect a wall from Martin's Point to Tournery's battery at Vizagapatam. Have allowed Andrews to build a new house in a healthier situation at Bandarmalanka at a cost of 700 Pags. In December last, proposals for making

bricks at low rates were received from certain Indians; but they were not accepted, first because the Council doubted whether they could fulfil their promises, seeing that even the Committee of Works, with greater privileges than could be entrusted to private persons were unable to furnish bricks so cheaply; and secondly, because it would establish a monopoly contrary to the Company's orders of November 19, 1754. The Council is in the following dilemma: either the manufacture of bricks must be left open to all, in which case the wages of brickmakers and the cost of bricks will rise—an important item in the cost of the Company's works; or it must be restrained under a monopoly. The latter has always been the case and inhabitants have always had to pay high for bad brick in order that the Company may get good brick cheap. Have resolved for the present that the Committee of Works shall alone be allowed to make brick. The Council observe that this dilemma has arisen owing to the Company's orders having been unconditional. Such absolute orders are often difficult to execute among people 'immovably attached to customs handed down to them from centuries past.' The paddy fields and salt pans were let for 715 Pags. and the Company's old garden for 240 Pags. for one year. As the inhabitants of Chintadripettai were unwilling to pay the Chintadripettai Pagoda duties, and as the Council have no legal power to enforce them, they have decided to abolish these duties. The fixed revenues have increased between 5,000 to 6,000 Pags., chiefly on the rent of the Poonamallee country and Jaghir; the variable revenues have decreased by 3,000 Pags. The duty on coining Madras Pags. rose by 1,030 Pags. but that on the current Pags. fell by 2,443 Pags. Sea customs fell by 2,364 Pags. owing to a great reduction in the import of grain. The increase of 749 in land customs is due to the detection of a practice of 'chopping'[1] piece goods at St. Thomé. Correspondingly with the fall of sea customs, the Town Conicopoly's duty fell by 75 Pags. The fixed revenues at Fort St. David are unchanged.

Orme and Percival have been at camp. The Committee of Accounts having reported irregularities in the Devikottai accounts, the Council deputed John Smith to enquire. His report shows that Hopkins has acted dishonestly. He has been ordered to Madras to explain his conduct, and Dawsonne Drake has been placed in charge of Devikottai. John Smith (under the Paymaster) performed Smith's work during his absence at Devikottai. Henry Brooke has

[1] *i.e.*, stamping, presumably with an imitation of the Company's stamp.

been permitted to return from the Negrais owing to ill-health. Andrew Newton would have been appointed to succeed him; but as he was in poor health, Captain John Howes, on Pigot's recommendation, has been appointed. He will sail in a few days. Hunter had no allowances but he charged his expenses. Brooke was given 50 Pags. a month which was afterwards found insufficient. Captain Howes has been allowed 500 Rs. a month, especially as encouragement should be given to those who are sent to unhealthy places. Charles Simpson has been removed from the Accountant's office for negligence and will be given a further trial in the Secretary's office. The behaviour of the Junior servants has been in general satisfactory. The court-martial on Colonel Heron convicted him of perverting the intention of his commission and of breach of orders, and sentenced him to be cashiered. Forward a copy of the proceedings of the court-martial. Observe that officers will become independent of the Company's government if they are only liable to punishment by court-martial. While we were preparing to file a suit against him in the Mayor's Court for misappropriation of money[1], Heron slipped out of the Bounds the night the sentence was approved by Colonel Adlercron, and fled first to Sadras and then to Pondichery. His gross misconduct in the Madura expedition might have proved fatal to the Company had not a Truce been concluded. Heron's court-martial was held at Madras instead of at Fort St. David under promise of our defraying the expenses of the King's officers in coming here. It had been intended to make Heron bear these charges, but his flight has prevented this. Upon the trial of a soldier for desertion, he alleged that he came out as a servant and did not execute the usual bond to serve the Company for 5 years as a soldier. Desire that the bonds may be sent out on the same ship as the men. Major James Killpatrick has been given an allowance of 15 *s.* a day, as is usual in the King's service.

Desire precise orders regarding officers' rank. At present an officer sent out as Captain is at once assigned duties and when a vacancy occurs, receives a commission with rank from the date of the vacancy, not from the date of his arrival. This has led to disputes in the case of captains sent to Madras from other presidencies with commissions dated after the arrival but earlier than the commission of captains sent direct from England. As a temporary measure, have given such officers brevets dated from the

[1] Both of the tribute paid by the Poligars and by collecting bazaar duties.

time of their arrival and have ruled that they should rank with officers of the Madras army according to the dates of their commissions, but with officers from other presidencies according to the date of their brevet. Recommend that they receive commissions dated from their arrival. Owing to the necessary detention of the Bengal recruits at Madras, a third of the soldiers on the Coast are now Bengal men without a single Bengal captain to command them. It would be unfair to allow the Bengal captains to enjoy the off-reckonings of these men while the Madras captains have had the trouble of training them. Have therefore incorporated all the Bengal recruits in the Madras companies (which even now do not exceed 90 men each) and recommend that recruits be enlisted for the Madras army from which drafts can be sent as necessary to Bengal. Will shortly send a vessel to Sumatra to fetch the recruits thence. Have granted Lieutenant's commission to Samuel Samson, October 27, 1755; Ensign's brevet to Robert Lister, June 20, 1754; Lieutenant fire-workers' brevets to John Charles Erdman, June 21, 1754; to Nicholas Bonjour, June 22, 1754; and to John Francis Raillard, July 22, 1755.

The Committee of Accounts has been unable to complete its work owing to the considerable business before the Select Committee. As packing stuff deteriorates rapidly and is difficult to keep account of, have resolved to contract with the Export Warehousekeeper (instead of obtaining it from Bengal), at the average rate of its previous cost, he taking all torn cloth at prime cost. Intend proposing the same method at Fort St. David and in the North. In future the number of fanams received and issued will be shown in all accounts to prevent gain from being made on the exchange. Have contracted with Powney, Orme, & Wynch for the supply of bullocks, drivers, etc., to the army.[1] A Committee of Accounts has been appointed at Fort St. David. The irregularities in the Devikottai accounts escaped the Council's notice because its books had never been properly kept in spite of more than one effort to regulate them. The Accountant will shortly inspect them. At Vizagapatam, changes are required in the method of bringing into account receipts and issues of rupees. Madras pagodas for the Northern investment are either coined or purchased. Their intrinsic value is about 8¾ % more than Star pagodas, but fluctuates between 9 to 11 % according to

[1] Formerly this had gone with the contract for victualling the men in the field. Civil, for instance, had enjoyed both.

their scarcity and the want of gold. They have usually been invoiced at 10 %. This is shown as batta in the Madras accounts. But at the Northern Settlements, the practice has been to write off their batta to Madras, so that the Northern cloth has really cost 10 % more than the invoice price. Cannot account for the origin of this custom, unless it was intended to make the Northern Settlements appear more profitable than they really were. Council have now ordered cloth to be invoiced at its real cost. Of the 9,908 Pags. shown as written off to profit and loss, 4,539 Pags. was accounted for by presents most of which was on account of several years' tribute due to Tanjore for Devikottai, and 1,100 Pags. was on account of the loss incurred by damaged cloth. Are sending the Madras books properly adjusted with those of the subordinate factories. This has been a complicated work over which Orme has taken much trouble. In future will credit the Company's coasting vessels for their services just as they are debited for repairs, charges, etc. The Committee of Accounts report that while Captain Schaub and his detachment were prisoners at Pondichery, he drew pay on abstract rolls for 14 months on no fewer than 89 persons; but the month after he was called upon for a detailed roll, they were suddenly reduced to 49. Besides these Swiss, there were at first 127 English prisoners at Pondichery for whom Schaub drew pay for 6 months; but a demand for their roll reduced them by 18 men in the first and 20 in the second month. This will be enquired into as soon as Colonel Adlercron permits Schaub to come up to Madras. Will report on Eyre's account after a fuller enquiry. Have written off to account current, London, the credits standing in the books for the estates of John Turnbull (41 Pags.), John Churchey (2,492 Pags.), and John Smith (7 Pags.). Ensign David Blake paid in 39 Pags. advanced him by George Higginson.

Sumatra affairs.—Have appointed George Mackay, Mayor; James Bourchier, Sheriff; and James Alexander, alderman, in the place of Edward Edwards resigned. As the Mayor's Court seem to doubt whether the right of accepting the resignation of alderman vests solely in the President and Council, desire that the matter may be made clear in the charter. The Council, owing to pressure of business have not yet been able to frame a scheme for determining disputes of property between Indians. At the Quarter Sessions, Charles Trimmer was tried for murder committed at Arcot, found guilty by the Jury, and sentenced to death. The Council feel some doubt as to the Court's jurisdiction, as Arcot,

though garrisoned by the English troops, is outside the Company's limits. Request that the Council may be authorized to try offences committed not only in the Company's old limits, but also in their new acquisitions and in all forts. Two more similar cases have arisen, but, as the accused were soldiers, they have been tried by courts-martial.

Supplement.—Have received a copy of the letter from the Mayor's Court to the Company. Francis Muriel and Mrs. Ann Westcott and her son take passage on the *Eastcourt*. Are sending as charterparty passengers Alexander Baird, an ex-servant of the Company, in poor circumstances, and two insane soldiers—John Flood and Samson Chanaway. Have laded on the *Eastcourt* 135½ tons of saltpetre at half freight, about 1,500 bales, etc. [*Portions lost.*] The invoice amounts to 1,53,527 Pags. Diamonds, etc., registered amount to 1,43,324 Pags. The cash balance in the Treasury is 5,20,374 Arcot Rs., 15,865 Madras Rs., 5,770 current Pags. and 8,909 Madras Pags.; and in the cash chest 4,882 current Pags.

Postscript.—Have drawn bills on the Company for 52 Pags.

Appended are—(1) Register of diamonds (pp. 149—159); (2) Captain Evans' bond for taking saltpetre at half freight (p. 159); and (3) lists of the packets (pp. 160. . . .) (*incomplete*).

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., COUNCIL AT MADRAS. LONDON, OCTOBER 10, 1755. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 59, *pp.* 35—40 (*original* 6 *pp.*).]

This goes by the *Delawar*. Hostilities have commenced between the English and French in America; in Europe itself several French ships have been seized, but not yet condemned as prize. War has not yet been formally declared. Have heard nothing from the French East India Company regarding the Provisional Treaty in India, though a copy of it was sent to them in July. The Council must therefore keep on their guard. Fort St. George and other forts must be kept in a state of defence. Cite despatches of November 29, 1754, January 31, February 14, March 26, and April 16, 1755. Acknowledge the receipt of general letters, dated November 10, 1754, January 12, and March 10, 1755; letters from the Select Committee of November 10, 1754, and March 8, 1755, and from Colonel Lawrence, Brohier, the Mayor's Court, etc. Of the 15 ships taken up, 4 are for the Coast and Bay and 4 for the Coast and China. The Secret Committee consists of Roger Drake, Peter Godfrey, Christopher Burrow, John Payne, and Jones Raymond.

Appointment of 'supra-cargoes' for China. The China ships and the *Marlborough* will leave early in December; the *Chesterfield* and *Walpole* early in February. Send 30 recruits by the *Delawar*. Redwood and other suitable cargo should be got ready for the China ships. Orders regarding the despatch of pepper from Sumatra. Some Coffrees should be sent to St. Helena. On the next ships will send the recruits for His Majesty's regiment and as many Company's recruits as possible. Are not sending any broad-cloth this season to Madras; but send 205 bales of broad-cloth and 16 of long ells to Bengal; 860 and 153 respectively, for Bombay, and 560 and 500 respectively, for Persia. A bale of long ells contains 10 pieces. Silver, coral, etc., over-carried to Bengal or Madras must be reconsigned at the freighters' risk.

DESPATCH FROM THE SECRET COMMITTEE TO THE SELECT COMMITTEE AT MADRAS. LONDON, OCTOBER 14, 1755. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol.* 1, *pp.* 167-168 (*original* 2 *pp.*).]

Have received with great pleasure the provisional treaty concluded between Saunders and Godeheu, as it may lead to a definitive treaty; but the present political situation has prevented further negotiations. Meanwhile the Council should try to maintain peace on the Coromandel coast. In case of a declaration of war, the news with further orders will at once be sent by one of His Majesty's frigate. Peace is essential for the recovery of the Nawab's debt. As Trichinopoly is the best security for that debt, it must be secured against either open attack or surprise. Suggest that the negotiations begun between Saunders and the Mysore Vakil for its surrender, might lead to an advantageous conclusion, if this could be done without any breach of faith towards the Nawab, the King of Tanjore or any other Indian ally of the Company. Will write more fully about this later on. The Government have been informed of the misunderstanding between Colonel Adlercron and the Madras Council, and, it is believed, will issue such orders to the former as will prevent further disputes.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., COUNCIL AT MADRAS. LONDON, DECEMBER 3, 1755. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 59, *pp.* 41-44 (*original* 4 *pp.*).]

Cite letter of October 10, 1755. The *Delawar* left for India on October 31. The *Marlborough* proceeds first to Madeira for wine, and may arrive before the Coast and Bay ships. Have consigned on her 100 tons of lead, 100 of iron, and 30 chests of treasure.

She will bring a 150 pipe of wine from Madeira which should be carefully inspected on landing. Have written to the Company's agents there about the deficiency in the size of casks and the quality of the wine of which complaints have been made from Bengal. Usual directions regarding treasure for Bengal. To strengthen the establishment, have appointed as writers James Hay, Alexander Leigh, John Crawfurd, Henry Parsons, Thomas Lane, Thomas Hamilton, William Stevenson, James Taylor, and Richard Fitzpatrick; 70 recruits go on this ship. The political situation in Europe continues the same. English merchantmen are freely allowed in and out of the French ports. The French are making great preparations and are believed to be meditating some grand effort. The English are equally active.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., COUNCIL AT MADRAS. LONDON, DECEMBER 19, 1755. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 59, *pp.* 45—87 (*original* 43 *pp.*).]

Cite despatches of October 10, and December 3, 1755.

The *Delawar* sailed on October 31 under escort, and the *Marlborough* received her final despatch on December 6, 1755. Enclose list[1] of shipping. The *Marlborough* may be returned laded from either Bengal or Madras. This goes by the China ships which, on landing the recruits and Madras cargoes, are to proceed without delay to Canton with redwood. The *Chesterfield* and *Walpole* will sail early in February with cargo for Bengal. The Coast and Bay ships of this season, the *Delawar*, *Marlborough*, *Chesterfield* and *Walpole*, will probably barely suffice to bring back the Madras and Bengal investments. They may be laded in excess of their charterparty tonnage, provided they are not so pestered with goods as to be incapable of defence. Should there be insufficient tonnage for the whole investment, some of the coarser goods may be left over to the next season. Surplus pepper in Sumatra may similarly be retained there or sent to Madras if a ship is available. If the *Dragon* happens to be on the Coast, she may be laded with any surplus goods from Bengal or Madras. If another ship is still necessary, either the *Hardwicke* or the *Dodington* which were freighted for voyages to India only, may be engaged to take in the surplus bales. As there is much demand for saltpetre, ships may be laded with it above the kintlage proportion and in excess of charterparty tonnage, provided that this does not interfere with

[1] *Public Despatches from England*, vol. 59, pp. 191–192.

the shipping of more valuable articles. Leave it to the Council to employ to the best advantage, any ship that may unavoidably be detained in India for want of freight. Have had to pay heavily for the damage done to the *Delawar* and *Colchester* by storms on the Madras Coast at the end of October. Ships should not be detained there at that season if it can be avoided. Last year the *Norfolk* was detained at Madras with all her cargo aboard and a great amount of diamonds from October till January. This is only excused by the importance of sending immediate news by her about the conclusion of the Truce. In future when ships are detained, they must be ordered out into deep water. It shall be a standing rule to protest against any ships' captains who loiter or mis-spend their time or do not proceed upon their voyages immediately after receiving their final despatch. To encourage the ships' commanders to make speedy homeward voyages, the Company have promised them gratuity of 200 guineas in case of war with France and 100 guineas at other times. Protests must be delivered at latest on the day after the resolution to protest is taken. An account-current should be maintained showing all money and stores supplied on account of the ship owners, to be sent home in triplicate. Approve the detailed information furnished regarding ships' movements. The Secret Committee will furnish the President with the orders to be given to the ships' captains for the security of the ships.

Have sent a large supply of treasure and stores by the *Delawar*, *Marlborough* and the China ships. The 83 bales of woollen goods sent by the *Delawar* should be forwarded to Bombay. Have sent no woollen goods to Madras this season. Most of the articles indented for for the purpose of sale have had to be kept back on account of the tonnage needed for Government stores. Indents and account remains of stores should always be sent by the same ship. Usual instructions for the sending of treasure to Bengal. Send 150 tons of copper to Madras and another 150 to Bengal. Send 12 grind-stones for the powder-mills, 157 tons of naval and 178 of victualling stores for the squadron, besides clothing for the King's troops. Have sent a parcel of the most useful books among those asked for together with a pair of globes, but this is not the time for forming a library or incurring needless expense. Thirty Coffrees are to be sent as soon as possible to St. Helena to assist in the fortifications. The Council must follow the advice of the Company's Accountant-General regarding the coinage, and the coins must be kept to their exact standards.

Have sent no woollen goods to Madras this season in order to permit the sale of the stock on hand, in which there should be no difficulty owing to the permission recently given to sell at anything above the invoice price. In spite of Council's objections, insist on the maintenance of the system of selling goods by public outcry which has proved beneficial in other presidencies and will doubtless do the same at Madras, once the merchants are convinced that a few of them will not be allowed to engross the whole supply of cloth. A report of the woollen goods on hand is to be submitted by the first ship of the season.

In spite of the Truce, the last Coast investment only produced a cargo and a half. The expenses on the Coast are out of all proportion to the profit of so small an investment. The Council must endeavour to increase it while maintaining the size and quality of cloth. Send a list[1] of the investment. As to investments, the Council misunderstood the Company's directions. It was never meant that 'every boutique fellow that retails a piece of moorees or handkerchiefs' (as the Council says), should participate; and if the old merchants offer the best terms, there is no objection to their continuance. But all substantial merchants should be encouraged to tender. Complain of the conduct of the Fort St. David merchants in not fulfilling their contracts in spite of their great advances. As an investment at Devikottai is not likely to succeed, expenses must be kept within the revenues there, and the Council should report whether it is worth keeping. Are informed that closer supervision of the servants to the northward would reduce the cost of cloth and improve its quality. Suitable Chiefs should be appointed without regard to seniority. Desire to receive by the ships of 1756, as much saltpetre as possible (even to the amount of 2,000 tons), but care must be taken to so distribute it on the various ships as not to interfere with the more valuable investment of piece-goods. If tonnage cannot be found for the whole investment, the finest and most valuable is to be sent first.

The prospects of the Negrais settlement are not encouraging. Await the report called for in the previous year, before sending final orders. Further negotiations for concluding a treaty in Europe have been prevented by the condition of political affairs. Orders respecting the French will be given by the Secret Committee to the Select Committee, but 'the tranquillity of the Coast' is the object of our wishes, and the French will probably display a

[1] *Public Despatches from England*, vol. 59, pp. 171—177.

similar spirit as Dupleix is no longer in India. Urge the importance of obtaining all possible security for the Nawab's debt. Suitable bonds for existing and future debt must be obtained; and care taken that the districts mortgaged for it are such that the revenues may be secured for the Company even in the event of the Nawab's defeat or death. Rely on the Council's vigilance to support the Company's right to the settlement of Natal in Sumatra, although the Sumatra servants acted most improperly in establishing settlements designed merely for their private interests.

Much regret Colonel Scott's death. In view of Brohier's ability and honesty, appoint him Engineer at Fort St. George. He will continue as Captain of an artillery company and draw pay as such together with the pay sanctioned for the Engineer in the despatch of November 29, 1754. John Call is to be Assistant Engineer and receive due encouragement. By the mismanagement of the Company's servants, the works of Fort St. George have been delayed. They must be expedited in view of present relations with the French. The Regulations made in consequence of Colonel Scott's complaints, are to be strictly enforced together with the Company's orders previously sent. Approve the appointment of a Standing Committee to manage the works. Brohier is always to be a member of it. These directions apply to the subordinate factories as well as to Madras. The powder mills should be placed under the management of the Committee of Works. Repeat orders for imposing an assessment on the inhabitants to meet the cost of the fortifications. Much approve the project to survey the Company's bounds and if possible the whole province of Arcot. Agree that the duties levied for the support of the Chintadripet and other pagodas are burdensome to the inhabitants. They may be abolished if that is practicable, and if some other security may be found for Kuddam Narayanan's debt. Approve the mortgage by the Nawab of several districts as security for his debts. Care must be taken that the 'Naubit' does not cost more than the revenues of the villages granted for it. Are much pleased that the Poonamallee country has been let for 9,000 Pags. more. Permit the farms to be let by outcry for terms of 5 years if advisable, but the new acquisitions should be let from year to year only, until their value has been duly ascertained. Madras, Fort St. David and the mortgaged districts produce a 'noble income' of 2,00,000 Pags. a year. But the 'gulph of expences' 'swallows up not only this but great sums besides.' Urge the necessity for increasing the one and curtailing the other. The

Council is allowed full discretion to compensate the owners of houses confiscated on the rendition of Madras, but a report is to be submitted to the Company.

Are pleased to hear of George Pigot's popularity, and recommend the maintenance of the utmost harmony. When Clive becomes Deputy Governor at Fort St. David, Alexander Wynch or some other Madras councillor, well acquainted with civil work, should be appointed Second there to assist him. The Second at Fort St. David should invariably be one of the Madras Council and should reside there. Robert Palk or a junior Chaplain is to reside at Fort St. David. Notwithstanding Palk's ability and good services, so large a present as 1,000 Pags. should not have been given him without the Company's previous approval. As Dawsonne Drake has again refused to go to Sumatra, he is to be dismissed from service and sent home. Approve of the suspension of Cooke. He has since come to England. As to the torn and damaged cloth that is charged to his account, condemn the Export Warehousekeeper Charles Boddam, for allowing it to lie so long in the warehouse and for allowing it to be shipped as sound. This has afforded Cooke a pretext for disputing the claim. The refund of 1,246 Pags. by Boddam which he overcharged for bullock hire, may be foregone, provided he gives no further occasion for complaint. The transfer of Madras servants to Sumatra should be made only under extraordinary circumstances. Cannot tell whether Greenslate's[1] removal was justified or not. Refusal on the part of a servant to take up the work allotted to him should be immediately punished with suspension. The Company will uphold what the Council does with a view to reducing the general spirit of disobedience. Cannot sanction the purchase of a service of plate for the Governor. All unnecessary expenses must be avoided. Tyso Saul Hancock may succeed as a surgeon on the Coast establishment, after James Willson. The writers appointed to Madras [See despatch of December 3] proceed by the *Marlborough* except Hamilton who goes on the *Godolphin*. If writers are freely admitted to the military service there will be a lack of hands for the current work; so only those should be suffered to enter the army, 'whose inclination and genius are so strong that way as will render it irksome to them to set down to mercantile business.'

[1] He was transferred from Madras to Fort Marlborough on account of having contracted undesirable intimacies in the Black Town.

The pay and allowances of covenanted servants should cease from the date of their transfer; but on extraordinary occasions, any servant may take up the sword in the Company's defence. Send lists[1] of persons permitted to reside in the East Indies. Send about 240 recruits, with 140 more for the King's regiment. As the Bengal garrison is very weak in Europeans, the Bengal recruits should not be detained and if possible some men should be sent thither from Madras. To avoid discontentment among the officers, do not propose to send out this season any above the rank of Ensign. Send Thomas Stephenson and Daniel McAlpin as Ensigns; also Samuel Lansdale Palmer and Richard Willson as cadets. As His Majesty has assisted the Company with troops, it cannot be helped that His Majesty's commanding officer takes rank of Colonel Lawrence. Trust that the latter will not regard this unavoidable circumstance as showing the least change in the Company's sentiments towards him. Have decided to procure no more recruits from Switzerland. The four Swiss companies may therefore be incorporated with the Company's troops. Colonel Lawrence will consult with the Swiss officers about effecting this without creating any discontent. The Swiss officers and soldiers should be on the same footing as the rest, except that so long as their contract lasts, the Swiss companies will remain 140 strong. Send a new commission for Captain Polier, giving him seniority over the rest of the Swiss captains, as was understood at the time of their appointment. Recommend that the Company's troops be dieted in messes like His Majesty's and the Swiss troops. Approve Sir James Foulis' conduct in coming round to the Coast when it was thought that his services might be needed, and also the gift of 500 Pags. to defray his expenses. The cost of maintaining invalids amounts to about 6,000 Pags. a year. The greatest care should be taken to admit only suitable persons; Europeans may be sent home as charterparty passengers with a full statement of their services, etc., and topasses had better receive a lump sum, if possible, instead of monthly allowances. Repeat the orders for forming a fund to relieve the Company of such expenses. Military expenses must be retrenched wherever possible. No more principal officers are to be created than are really wanted. As the Company reserves to itself the power to appoint Major, the Council should not have given a Major's brevet to Killpatrick. When he dies or retires, there is to be but

[1] *Public Despatches from England*, vol. 59, pp. 199—201.

one Major. The allowance of 5*s.* a day granted to Captain Bridge as Town Major should be discontinued. Understand that the costs of victualling may be reduced. Tenders are to be invited and the best offer from a substantial person accepted. The balance of Coja Sultan David's bond dated August 7, 1745, should be paid to his heir Coja Shawmier Sultan, with simple interest at 8 % *per annum*. The other old Madras bonds should be paid off or fresh bonds granted. Have paid to the representatives of the late David Hunter, 2,000 Rs. claimed as lost during the insurrection of the Coffrees at the Negrais, together with a sum in full for all allowances due to him. Stratton's debt of 2,592 Pags. should be recovered from his heirs. In the 1754 Consultations, large balances are shown to be in the hands of Powney as Import Warehousekeeper and Sea Customer. Such irregularities must cease. The Sumatra accounts should be adjusted in the Madras general books as formerly. Commissaries' accounts and muster rolls of the troops with casualty lists must be sent home regularly. The balance of John Trenwith's estate, not being paid to his heirs here, may now be paid to his brother Henry Trenwith. The produce of deceased persons' estates should be written off to account current, London, as soon as the accounts are adjusted. If there are no further claims on John Churchey's estate, the balance of 2,492 Pags. should be written off to account current, London. Desire a report on the amount due to the estate of the late John Savage now claimed[1] by his daughter Elizabeth Savage. The practice of sending accounts of sums written off as net produce of deceased persons' estates should be continued. Such accounts should be passed in Consultation, after which no further payment should be made in India. The Madras books have not been properly kept since the loss of that settlement; the old methods are to be re-adopted; and two or more well qualified persons are to be employed to bring the accounts up to date. Their services will be duly rewarded.

Sumatra affairs.—Pybus, whose conduct has been satisfactory, is ordered back to Madras as the post of Supervisor is no longer necessary. He is to receive a present of £400 for his services. Hallett Saunders, at present a free merchant at Madras or elsewhere, has been appointed a factor in Sumatra.

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[1] *Vide* her petition, to the Company, *Public Despatches from England*, vol. 59, pp. 211-212.

The new charter was specially calculated for the general good of the settlement. The late differences between the Council and the Mayor's Court are due rather to personal quarrels than to any defects in the charter. The Council must do their best to preserve a good understanding with the Aldermen. Although the Company's servants have a great variety of employments, the Bench of Justices must not neglect their duties. Understand that the Bench has not sat as often as was necessary, whence has arisen a depravity of manners among the people, besides an irregularity in cooly hire and servants' wages. The Bench should meet if possible once a week.

Heartily approve Admiral Watson's zeal for the Company's service. Regret to hear of the disputes between the Council and Colonel Adlercron. As the latter's instructions were not communicated to the Company, it was impossible to give suitable orders regarding him. Holdernesse now assures the Company that such orders have been sent to Adlercron regarding both his allowances and authority, as will prevent similar disputes in future. Approve of the additional allowance granted to him. As the King's forces were sent out entirely at Government expense, surgeons on the men-of-war were not entitled to head-money. The accounts of stores supplied to His Majesty's forces must be duly certified by Colonel Adlercron, so that there may be no difficulty in getting them passed for payment. Naval, victualling and military stores and treasure should be carefully delivered to the King's officers. A detachment of 140 of the King's troops proceeds on the *Suffolk and Caernarvon* to recruit Colonel Adlercron's regiment. As the cost of their transport is borne by the Company, the Surgeons are to be paid head-money. Full information should be given regarding the employment of His Majesty's forces.

Supplement.—Owing to the heavy expenses incurred during the troubles in the Carnatic, the court has reduced the dividend from 8 to 6 % *per annum*. Expenses must be reduced, the Nawab's debt recovered, and the investment improved. No new pensions are to be given, and a complete list of all pensioners sent home. Send 160 chests of treasure. Have received a memorial[1] from Timothy Tullie, a creditor of Kuddam Narayanan, requesting that he and other creditors may be reimbursed the amount due to them from his estate. Recommend that all reasonable help be

[1] *Vide Public Despatches from England*, vol. 59, pp. 213-214.

given to the creditors and a full report sent home. It is not however, the Company's intention to modify their previous instructions for the abolition of the duties on Chintadripet pagoda, etc. should an opportunity occur. As it appears that a large balance remains in the trustee's hands, suggest that the Company's debt be first recovered and the remainder be secured for the other creditors. England and France seem on the point of war. Both are making great preparations. Thomas Amphlett is appointed writer below Richard Fitzpatrick. Charles Frederick Noble, a factor for Sumatra, is to be sent thither. If either the *Hardwicke* or the *Dodington* is sent home, a special agreement must be made regarding their freight. Sir Luke Schaub has written to the Swiss Captains regarding the amalgamation of the Swiss companies with the rest of the troops. Enclose a copy[1] of his letter to the Secretary. Send another cadet Thomas Prichard by the *Godolphin*. Have resolved that Charles Boddam be recalled from Vizagapatam and remain as Fifth in Council at Madras till further orders.

DESPATCH FROM THE SECRET COMMITTEE TO THE SELECT COMMITTEE AT MADRAS. LONDON, DECEMBER 22, 1755. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol. I, pp.* 169—171 (*original* 3 *pp.*)]

Cite despatch of October 14, 1755. Such a number of French ships have been seized by the English that the French are likely to attempt some retaliation, perhaps in the East Indies. On November 19, 11 French Company's ships sailed from L'Orient with 3,000 men on board. Six of the largest were only half loaded and armed with 60 guns each, to serve as convoy to the others. Four more had sailed before this. All are probably destined for the Coast and Bay, as no French ships are proceeding to China this season. The Ministry have been informed. Meanwhile, the Committee must be on its guard, and at once inform the Governor of Fort William. As the latter presidency is now in a most defenceless condition, all possible help is to be given to it. The heavy expenses of the Carnatic war have obliged the Company to reduce the dividend from 8 to 6 *per cent.* as they cannot carry on their trade and continue the war at the same time. The Committee is to recover as large an amount as possible of the Nawab's debt and obtain the most explicit acknowledgments and securities for the remainder. If possible this is to be done

[1] *Public Despatches from England*, vol. 59, p. 209.

before the arrival of the next shipping. Send out 380 recruits for Bengal and Madras and 140 for Adlercron. This is all that the Committee can expect; it must therefore remain on the defensive in order that it may be able to spare a sufficient number for Bengal. The Committee is to consult with His Majesty's Officers and the Select Committee of Bombay as to the best employment for the artillery detachments sent to Bombay last season. Holdernesse informs the Company that such orders have been sent to Adlercron as will prevent disputes about either the command of the Company's forces or the allowances paid to him. A good understanding is to be cultivated with both Naval and Military Officers.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., COUNCIL AT MADRAS. LONDON, FEBRUARY 11, 1756. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 59, *pp.* 89—104 (*original* 16 *pp.*)]

Cite despatch of December 19, 1755. This goes by the Coast and Bengal ships, *Chesterfield* and *Walpole*. Have consigned on them 40,896£ worth of bullion direct to Bengal and 47,400£ worth of gold to Madras to be sent to Bengal in silver of equivalent value. The Coast and Bay ships may be laded home from either of the presidencies. Had intended to send by the 3 previous ships about 210 recruits but could only send 166, owing to the demand for men for the King's army. Now send 140 recruits for Bengal to be sent thither with any other troops that can be spared. As Major Killpatrick is well reported upon, have appointed him Commander and Major of the Company's forces in Bengal and permanent Third in Council there. He should proceed thither by the earliest opportunity. Order the payment of a gratuity of £30 to Edward Brown, a mariner on the *Swallow*, who lost an eye in quelling a mutiny of slaves at Madagascar. Direct John Andrews to be appointed to the Chiefship of Vizagapatam on account of his long experience and special knowledge of the Northern investment, unless a more suitable person is available on the spot. On Andrews' removal to Vizagapatam, Robert Sloper who is reported capable and experienced may be appointed Resident at Madapollam. Charles Frederick Noble, factor at Fort Marlborough, should be provided with a passage thither at his own expense. Sent in 1752, a set of brass standard weights to regulate the lead and iron weights at Madras; now send another set for Fort St. David. Complain of the debasement and high cost of Coromandel cloth,

In Bengal, contracts have been abolished; gumastas are sent direct to the places of manufacture; and weavers are encouraged to settle within the Calcutta limits. This last might well be attempted at Fort St. David, though the merchants will doubtless oppose it, as at present their great balances permit them to trade at the Company's expense and oblige the English to accept whatever goods they please. As regards the Northern cloth, Saunders considers that superfine izarees could be got at 5 Pags. a corge, fine longcloth at 2 Pags., and ordinary salampores at half a pagoda, less than the present prices, if a resolute attempt is made. As the Chiefs seem to be the sole merchants there, the cloths sent down should be thoroughly examined before shipment. At present, as the Madras charges greatly exceed the revenues the Company's advantage lies only in the Europe investment. That has greatly fallen off. A Committee is to be appointed to consider how the merchants' advances may be reduced, the prices lowered, the quality improved and the weavers brought into the Company's bounds.

Refer to their Despatch of January 31, 1755, for orders regarding the acceptance of resignations from Aldermen. As to the dispute between the Mayor's Court and the Court of Appeals in the case of Haji Abd-ul-lah Sahib *v.* Pallam Kutti Chetti, referred to in the Madras Despatch of November 10, 1754, the Company considers that, under the surrender of the former charter and the grant of the new one, the powers of holding courts for civil justice at Madras had altogether ceased. At Calcutta and Bombay (where the Courts had continued), provision was made for not terminating suits already commenced in the old Courts but this did not apply to Madras where the old Courts had disappeared. The Mayor's Court should not therefore have attempted to enforce the decree of the former Mayor's Court, but should have ordered the parties to commence a fresh suit. Enclose copy[1] of a letter to the Company from the Mayor's Court dated January 7, 1755. Disapprove of such direct addresses, as Council's observations are always desired before the Company takes any decision. Regarding the

[1] *Public Despatches from England*, vol. 59, pp. 203—208. The substance of this letter is fully indicated in the text. The Court mentions having received from the President and Council the following law books:—Cay's *Abridgment of the Statutes*, Hawkins' *Pleas of the Crown*, Barlow's *Justice*, Blackerby's *Justice* and *Office of the Clerk of the Peace*. It also desires the following to be sent out:—Wood's *Institutes*, Horseman's *Conveyancing*, Wood's *Conveyancing*, Jacob's *Law Dictionary*, Molloy *de Jure Maritimo*, Domai's *Civil Law*, Wood's *Civil Law*, etc.

proposal to re-empower the Mayor's Court to try suits between Indians, the Company has already given orders in their Despatch of January 31, 1755. Any further relief to insolvent debtors, by way of freeing them from further molestation from their creditors, can only be afforded by an Act of Parliament which the Company is not prepared to seek. As to the levy of commission on estates by administrators or executors, none are allowed under English law, though the Company consider that in the peculiar conditions in India, a commission may reasonably be levied on the net proceeds. The best course will be to bring a test case in the Mayor's Court concerning a commission so charged and to obtain the Privy Council's decision. As to the 10 years' limitation which the Mayor's Court propose to fix for the filing of suits, the Company does realise the inconvenience arising from allowing persons to file suits on ancient claims, but no Court can alter or amend the rules laid down in the Statute of Limitations, which is in force at Madras. As to the summary powers which the Mayor's Court proposes to take for the trial of small causes between 5 and 20 Pags., the Company cannot extend the existing rules as laid down in the Charter. Regarding the method of appointing Presidents of courts-martial, referred to in the Madras despatch of March 10, 1755, the Deputy Secretary at War and the Judge Advocate General advise that the Judge Advocate should be generally authorized to summon courts-martial by an order in writing from the President and Council or the Commander-in-chief; but verbal orders are sufficient for summoning a particular court. In England, the usual practice is for the Commander-in-chief to issue a fresh warrant for each court-martial, specifying the cases to be tried and the name of the officer presiding. As to the apprehensions concerning the Court of Requests that, unless persons chosen as Commissioners are compelled by fine or otherwise to take up those duties, there will not be members enough to perform the work,[1] the Company feel doubtful whether they can impose such a fine. But all covenanted servants must understand that, if they are to merit the Company's favour, they must accept such duties, and that those refusing without adequate reasons will meet with the Company's resentment. Aldermen as such are not exempt from serving as Commissioners of the Court of Requests, but they should not usually be appointed. Regarding the effects belonging to the estate of Solomon Salomons deposited in the Mayor's Court, the Court may order one of its officers to take charge of them.

[1] See *Calendar of the Madras Despatches*, 1744—1755, p. 260.

Supplement. At Calcutta, consulage has hitherto been collected irregularly and only upon exports. Have now ordered the Company's House to be appropriated for the regular collection of the duties and the imposition of import duty of 1 % upon all goods from England or elsewhere, except bullion or coin, provided they had not already paid duty to the Company elsewhere. The French have ordered all British subjects to quit France before March 1, unless specially permitted to remain.

DESPATCH FROM THE SECRET COMMITTEE TO THE SELECT COMMITTEE AT MADRAS. LONDON, FEBRUARY 13, 1756. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol.* 1, *pp.* 179—183 (*original* 4½ *pp.*)]

Cite despatches of October 14 and December 22, 1755. Since December 22, have received another report regarding the French Company to the effect that they have fitted out only a few ships and do not intend to send more until they know whether there is to be peace or war with the English. Cannot tell whether this or the earlier account is the truer. Warn the Council to be constantly on their guard against a French attack which is sure to be delivered wherever they have sufficient force. Have appointed a Select Committee for Bengal, similar to those for Madras and Bombay, with which the Madras Committee is to correspond for the protection of the English interests whenever in danger. Many weighty objections have been raised against last season's plan for a joint campaign by the English and Marathas in the Deccan. The Marathas would be more likely to pursue their own interests than ours, and all their inroads show their principal object to have been plunder. If the English joined them in attacking the Moghal's Government, it would be an insult to the authority from which English privileges are derived. Shall therefore direct the Bombay Committee not to proceed with the plan. Should circumstances compel joint operations with the Marathas, there should be explicit stipulations that the English expenses be defrayed, that they have a due share of contributions levied, and that they be not obliged to act against the Moghal. As no definite plan can be formed so far from the scene of operations, and as its execution depends upon the accidents of war and the uncertain situation of despotic governments, the Select Committees in India must concert plans with the King's officers for the best employment of the 3 artillery companies sent out last year, and the other English forces. Refer to their instructions of December 22, regarding the Nawab's debt. The reason for these is as follows:—In view of the strong desire of

the King of Mysore to obtain Trichinopoly, we think that its delivery to him to be highly advantageous if thereby his alliance can be secured without injuring the King of Tanjore who has acted as a good friend and ally, and if the Nawab's interests be 'attended to so far as circumstances will admit' and his whole debt can be thus recovered. The proposals of Venkata Rao, the Mysore vakil, to Saunders recorded in Military Consultations, May 13, 1754,[1] seem to offer a good basis for a treaty equally beneficial to the Company, the Nawab and Tanjore. Negotiations should be entered with Mysore on these lines, preferably by Robert Orme, or, if his health will not permit, by some other capable person. But the Commissary is to conclude nothing finally, and his proposals are to be laid before the whole Council for their approval. The utmost secrecy must be observed. Trichinopoly must not be given up without receiving the whole of the Nawab's debt or fully equivalent security. Difficulties may perhaps arise with the Nawab, but every effort must be made to conciliate him; but, if that is impossible, the recovery of his debt and an alliance with Mysore are prime objects, especially when the French may renew war on the Coast. As war is not yet declared against France, the Committee must remain on the defensive unless attacked; and in any case no ships of war can be sent to India this season nor any recruits additional to those reported in the general letters. The utmost secrecy must be observed as regards this information.

LETTER FROM THE SECRET COMMITTEE TO CAPT. JOHN BROHIER AT MADRAS. LONDON, MAY 25, 1756. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol.* 1, *p.* 185 (*original* 1 *page*).]

Direct him to proceed to Bengal on receiving the permission of the Madras Government.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., AT MADRAS. LONDON, JULY 28, 1756. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 60, *pp.* 19–20 (*original* 2 *pp.*)]

Cite despatch of February 11, 1756. Acknowledge the receipt of despatch, dated October 4, 1755. This goes by the *Prince Henry* Packet with the news of the declaration of war against France. Peter Godfrey, John Payne, Christopher Burrow, Roger Drake, William Mabbott and Jones Raymond, constitute the Secret Committee. Orme is to continue Export Warehousekeeper if consistent with the execution of his other duties.

[1] *Records of Fort St. George, Mil. Cons.*, 1754, pp 104–105.

THE MADRAS DESPATCHES, 1756–1757.

DESPATCH FROM GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., SELECT COMMITTEE, TO THE SECRET COMMITTEE. FORT ST. GEORGE, OCTOBER 11, 1756. [*Military Despatches to England, Vol.* 1, *pp.* 24—30 (*copy* 7 *pp.*)]

This goes by a Danish ship from Tranquebar. A full despatch under the usual heads will be sent by the first Company's ship. Cite despatch of March 1, 1756. The Arcot country has not been disturbed. Of the 8 lakhs of rupees assigned by the Nawab to the Company, 4 lakhs were paid in May and bills have just been received for the balance. The Nawab is unable to assign more this year, but he has made over the Madura and Tinnevelly districts. Tinnevelly has been rented to Thittarappa Mudali for 3 years, at 11 lakhs of rupees for the first year, 12 for the second, and 13 for the third; half of which is to be paid to the Company. The Committee is trying to let out Madura. On May 17, copies of the Despatch by the *Dodington* were at last received. From that the Committee learnt the destination of the Expedition sent to Bombay in 1755. Though the Company's intentions had been accurately guessed, we wrote at once to Bombay urging them to put the plan into execution as soon as possible,' for we were of opinion that Mr. De Leyrit's declaration, mentioned in the 60th paragraph of our address *per Winchelsea* would sufficiently have justified such a proceeding.' The Committee was the more anxious as news had just come of Salabat Jang's junction with Bussy before Savanur. However while they were still there, Bussy was dismissed and Salabat Jang wrote to the English for assistance. His letter was received on June 14. Such an alliance would secure the Company all the advantages desired. The Committee accepted the offer at once and were making preparations for the march of the troops. But on July 13, news came of the loss of Kasimbazar and of the danger to Calcutta. Major Killpatrick was at once sent to Bengal with 250 troops. Nevertheless on a fresh application from Salabat Jang it was resolved to continue the Deccan expedition. When it was almost ready on August 3, more alarming news were received from Bengal, on which it was resolved to send further reinforcements and to suspend the Golconda expedition. On August 16, further news came of the loss of

Calcutta and all the Company's settlements in Bengal. The Deccan plan was therefore abandoned. The French tried their best to keep their hold on Golconda. Early in July, Law with 500 men proceeded by sea to Masulipatam to join Bussy at Hyderabad, where the latter was fortifying himself and resisting Salabat Jang's troops. Late in August, Law joined Bussy. Hear that the French have since been re-admitted into Salabat Jang's service. It was most unfortunate that the Committee should have been prevented by affairs in Bengal from availing themselves of so good an opportunity to supplant the French at Golconda, but the Committee are not without hopes of breaking a connection based merely on force. On receipt of the Despatch of February 13, 1756, the Committee took charge of the Expedition to Bengal. They approved of the arrangements already made by the Council for sending the Squadron with an army under Colonel Clive, and were anxious to despatch it without delay. But Adlercron's refusal to let the King's Artillery and stores go (though already shipped) caused some days' delay. Some further time was taken up in coming to an agreement regarding the plunder that might be taken by the squadron separately or jointly with the land forces. It has been agreed that the Company's settlements and property should be immediately restored and that as to the booty taken from the Moors, half be deposited till His Majesty's pleasure be known and half be distributed as prize-money to officers and private men. The Admiral's and Captains' shares are also to be deposited. Artillery and stores have now been shipped. The troops will begin to embark to-morrow. The detachment consists of 600 Europeans (including 100 artillery men) and 940 sepoys. There are 200 of Adlercron's regiment on the squadron who will be landed if necessary. By the last advices from Bengal, there are above 400 Europeans there. More sepoys will be sent by later ships. In Madras, there will remain only 500 of Colonel Adlercron's regiment, 300 of the Company's troops and a party of 60 Royal artillery men under Captain Hislop. Two Europe ships arrived at Pondichery in April and a third in June, each bringing 60 recruits. There are only 500 men at Pondichery, but reinforcements may arrive after the monsoon and they always have their Golconda army which must now consist of about 1,000 men. Have ventured on the Bengal Expedition in the hope of completing it before news is received of the declaration of war. When that arrives, intend to recall Clive and his troops, as the defence of Madras must, in such circumstances, be the Committee's first object. The presence of

troops will then be more necessary because the squadron is under orders to return to Europe and the English settlements might be surprised by the attack of a French expedition which could be equipped at the Islands without the English knowing anything about it. In spite of pressing letters sent to Bombay for troops, news has just come that the Select Committee there have determined not to send their men. In future more men will be required for the defence of Bengal than formerly; and as the revenues acquired on this Coast merit the Company's attention, have no doubt that timely reinforcements will be sent here. The Company's ships *Marlborough* and *Walpole* have been put under Watson's command for this expedition; but should Bengal need their services, Watson will restore them.

DESPATCH FROM GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., COUNCIL AT MADRAS TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, OCTOBER 13, 1756. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 22, *pp.* 1–15 (*copy* 15 *pp.*)]

This goes by a Danish ship from Tranquebar. Will write more fully by the *Chesterfield*. Cite despatches of October 27, 1755 and March 2, 1756. Acknowledge the receipt of despatches, dated March 26, October 10, December 3 and 19, 1755 and March 11, 1756. The *Delawar* arrived on May 9. The China ships, *Suffolk*, *Stormont*, *Godolphin*, and *Caernarvon* sailed between July 24 and August 30. The *Marlborough* arrived from Madeira on August 10; and the *Chesterfield* and *Walpole* on September 19. All the China ships of last season were duly despatched to Europe. Other shipping news. The *Holdernesse* from Limpao was forced to put into Batavia for repairs, and lost many of her crew by the pestilence raging there. News of the *Dodington's* wreck has been confirmed. The Chief and Third mates who have arrived report that, an unaccountable current having set them behind their reckoning, they struck on a rocky island called the Chaos. The ship went to pieces in 20 minutes. Twenty-three of the crew, who were saved, built a small vessel and sailed to Delagoa. Nothing was saved except the packets, a chest of treasure and a box of plate. On July 13, news came that Siraj-ud-duala had seized Kasimbazar. As a sloop had just arrived from the French Islands with intelligence that the French were preparing a large expedition for the East, no part of the squadron could be spared for Bengal, but the *Delawar*, which was being laded for Europe, was sent up with 2 full companies of Europeans under Major Killpatrick, with 2 good train

officers and some field-pieces. She sailed on July 20. Some time after, at the pressing request of the Bengal Council, 150 men more were about to be sent on His Majesty's ship *Bridgewater*, 20 guns. But on August 16, news came of the loss of Calcutta. [A detailed description of the loss of Calcutta, including mention of the Black Hole.] At first, it was proposed to send 240 Europeans and a proper train on 2 ships of the Squadron, as these were thought sufficient to retake Calcutta. But on second thoughts, it appeared that bare possession of that town would be of little value, and that, the Nawab being obstinate, cruel, and impetuous and surrounded by similar advisers, little could be obtained from him except by force of arms. Letters also came from the President and Council of Fort William desiring larger forces than it had been proposed to send. It was therefore determined to send a considerable expedition, but to defer its departure until the Coast and Bay ships (which were also wanted for transports) brought further news from Europe. Watson was desired to prepare the whole Squadron to sail to Bengal with His Majesty's regiment and train under command of Colonel Adlercron. On the arrival of the *Chesterfield* and *Walpole* on September 19, as war has not been declared with France and as it was too late then for the French to attempt anything before January, it was resolved to despatch the expedition with this alteration, that instead of sending the King's troops under Adlercron, they should send Company's troops under Clive. Allude to the constant difficulties which have arisen in concerting measures of any kind with Adlercron. The future conduct of the expedition will be under the control of the Select Committee instead of the Council.

DESPATCH FROM THE SELECT COMMITTEE AT MADRAS, TO THE SECRET COMMITTEE. FORT ST. GEORGE, NOVEMBER 20, 1756. [*Military Despatches to England, Vol.* I, *pp.* 31–60 (*copy* 30 *pp.*)]

Cite despatches of March 1 and October 11, 1756. Acknowledge the receipt of despatches, dated March 26, October 14 and December 15, 1755 and February 13, 1756. This goes by the *Chesterfield.*

The Army returned from Vellore and was quartered at Arcot on February 26. Small detachments were occasionally sent to Madras or elsewhere for minor services; but the greatest part remained there until the Bengal Expedition was prepared. The French army likewise retired from Chetpattu to Gingee and

Pondichery. On complaints from the Nawab that the Tinnevelly poligars were attacking Mahfuz Khan, it was decided to send Yusuf Khan, with 1,000 sepoys from Trichinopoly, the Coffree Company, 6 gunners and 2 guns, to Mahfuz Khan's help. Meanwhile the rebels had taken the important fort of Nadumandalam between Madura and Tinnevelly; but soon after, Mahfuz Khan obtained a success over them and killed one of the Chiefs. On Yusuf Khan's arrival the rest dispersed and Nadumandalam was retaken. Yusuf Khan might have been recalled but for the suspicious conduct of Mahfuz Khan. The latter instead of returning to Arcot after delivering the country to our renter, Thittarappa Mudali, stopped at Madura; and news came that he had turned out the Company's sepoys from the fort and admitted in great state a relative of the old rebel governor Miana. Out of consideration for the Nawab, Caillaud, the Commandant at Trichinopoly, was ordered to write and enquire the reasons of his conduct, but to do nothing unless Mahfuz Khan was really acting the part of an enemy. Soon after this Mahfuz Khan wrote saying that his discharged troops would not allow him to leave Madura till their arrears had been paid, that it was they that had turned out the Company's sepoys, and that Miana's relative had been in his service ever since he went into that country. This letter was confirmed by a representation signed by the officers of the discharged troops, asking the Committee to take steps to secure them the payment of the 4 lakhs owing to them. In order to settle the matter Caillaud was authorized to promise them 2 lakhs (to be recovered from the Nawab's half share of the Tinnevelly rents) on their delivering up the fort of Madura to Yusuf Khan and on their accompanying Mahfuz Khan to Trichinopoly. Captain Caillaud expects to settle the matter shortly and Yusuf Khan has a large body of sepoys close to Madura ready to check disturbances.

In April last, news came through a French source of hostilities having been commenced at sea, though it was not known whether war had or had not been declared. Two companies of military were marched from Trichinopoly to Devikottai. All the garrisons were warned to stand on their guard. Catamarans were stationed as far as Negapatam to warn English ships to avoid Pondichery. On October 16, the English Squadron with the Company's ships *Walpole* and *Marlborough* sailed to Bengal. On October 29, the *Protector* sailed with 150 and the *Lapwing* snow, with 100 sepoys. On October 9, the *Bonetta* ketch, proceeded with 40 lascars and 400 barrels of gunpowder.

The Nawab has again assigned to the Company for the current year 8 lakhs of rupees from the Arcot country. Have received from Bomma Razu poligar 7,994 Pallipat Pags. (which, though reckoned at 3 Rs. in his country, only produces 2¾ Rs. here). His Vakil declares that he will pay off his bond for 70,000 Rs. in 4 months' time. The Tirupati renter has regularly paid in 3 instalments the yearly rent of 45,000 Saadat-ul-lah Khan Pags. (which are 4 or 5 *per cent.* better than current Pags.) and 52,000 Arcot Rs. The sealed bag sent by Murtaza Ali Khan to Killpatrick on February 9 which was supposed to contain 20,000 Rs. proved to be filled with a variety of coins which produced only 2,004 Pags. The Nawab has paid to the Company 4,830 Pags. being half of the tribute from Sadras. The mortgaged countries have been let as follows:—Chingleput for 2 years at 28,500 Pags. *per annum*; Covelong for one year at 8,000 Pags.; Seven Maganams for one year at 19,000 Pags. and Manimangalam for one year at 13,000 Pags. The Nawab has also assigned to the Company the management of Madura and Tinnevelly for 3 years, on condition that half the revenues are paid to him. Some remittances are shortly expected from Thitharappa Mudali, the English renter, but the payments of the sepoys under Yusuf Khan and Mahfuz Khan will absorb much of that revenue. No proposals have yet been received for renting Madura, probably owing to the disturbance caused there by Mahfuz Khan's discharged troops. Yusuf Khan collected a large portion of those dues for which the Tinnevelly poligars gave hostages who were kept at Trichinopoly, but he was obliged to use it to pay his sepoys. As Mahfuz Khan is unable to pay even the arrears of his own sepoys, he cannot be expected to clear his old debt of 1,21,000 Rs. The English expenses on the Nawab's account since the troops were brought into garrison, consisted mainly in the maintenance of sepoys especially at Trichinopoly. Hope to be able to reduce this charge. On April 30, 1756, the Nawab's debt amounted to 13,71,906 Pags.; subsequent receipts have reduced it to 12,10,728. This is only 30,000 less than what it was on April 30, 1754. On the average of the last six months, the expenses charged to the Nawab's account amount to 2,00,000 Pags. *per annum*. The receipts from the mortgaged countries, the Tirupati rents, and the 8 lakhs assignment from the Arcot countries, will amount to 3,50,000 Pags. Thus the Nawab's debt will be reduced by 1,50,000 Pags. every year, provided that no army has to take the field. The Committee will do their best to secure the most speedy repayment to the Company of the Nawab's debt.

This year the Nawab has not stirred out of Arcot. Murtaza Ali Khan offered to give bills for 1,00,000 Pags., provided the Company got him and his successors permanently exempted from all tributes to the Nawab and provided that certain other concessions were granted. His bills (it was found) would produce only a lakh of Rs. and his demands seemed unreasonable. As it was not worth while to disturb the peace of the province merely in order to restrain the authority of the principal poligars, the English remain in ostensible friendship with him, as well as with the killedars of Chetpattu and Elavanasur. Are sending Salabat Jang's two letters (in bags) to the Kings of England and France written at the time of his breaking with the French. In March last, Balaji Rao applied to the English for gunners and guns to help him in attacking the Savanur fort (this side of the Kistna) in which Morari Rao has taken refuge. As this gave a welcome opportunity to establish an alliance with the head of the Marathas, 200 soldiers, 2 heavy cannon and 6 field-pieces were made ready at Arcot; Balaji Rao was desired to send a detachment to escort them into his camp; and he was informed of their monthly expense. Meanwhile Salabat Jang with his whole army and the French under Bussy crossed the Kistna and joined the Marathas at Savanur. Morari Rao quietly submitted, but the Savanur Nawab had to pay dearly for the protection he gave him. A few days later news was received of the dismissal of the French by Salabat Jang. It is said that the French had advised Salabat Jang not to assist Balaji Rao; whereupon the latter represented to Salabat Jang the danger and disgrace of his concessions to the French. This is supposed to have brought about Bussy's dismissal. Law is said to have succeeded in joining Bussy[1] by bribing the Maratha Chief sent to oppose his march, and soon afterwards Salabat Jang was persuaded to take the French again into his service. No reply from Balaji Rao was received until September 9, when he wrote that, as he had settled the affair of Savanur, he did not at once need our troops, but that he would visit the Carnatic after the monsoon, when he desired our troops to be ready to join him. Cannot tell what his design may be, but will endeavour to make use of the friendship he professes to feel. He has since twice complained of Gheria's not being delivered to him, and sent letters addressed to the King of England which are now forwarded.

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[1] In 1770 Bussy told Orme that he had won over all but two of the leaders sent to oppose Law. Orme MSS, *Various*, 55, pp. 1–2.

Are attempting to negotiate a treaty with the King of Mysore for the recovery of the Company's debt [*vide* Military Consultations May 13, 1754, and Military Consultations October 25, 1756], but have made no public advances for fear of alarming the Nawab and the King of Tanjore. Do not expect that the King of Mysore will consent to the treaty. From what Lawrence and Palk reported in 1754, it is doubtful whether Venkata Rao's proposal was ever approved by the King of Mysore. The Dalaway might perhaps have consented to pay 30 or 35 lakhs, which was then the amount of the Nawab's debt, but is unlikely to be willing to engage for the amount it has now risen to. But even if he were willing, it is doubtful whether so large a sum could be found owing to the contributions levied twice by the Marathas and once by Salabat Jang and as the civil wars which have raged there still continue. Have not heard anything from Venkata Rao since he left Madras. The Committee are endeavouring to ascertain the attitude of the Mysore Darbar and if there is the least chance of a treaty, will start negotiations without delay. Orme has agreed to undertake the management of the business and is at present in correspondence with Venkata Rao. A friendly correspondence is being kept up with the Nawab of Cuddapah. The King of Tanjore has had a dispute with the Danes. It appears that the dispute arose from the Danes' attempting to extend their bounds on the pretence of having got a mortgage from a local poligar on a neighbouring village. The only satisfaction the King is disposed to make is to oblige the poligar to pay his debt to the Danes.

As the Committee desired to maintain a Vakil at Delhi, Papa Braminy was asked to go, but he declined on the ground that if he went without attendants, he could command no influence there, and if he took followers the French would stop him in one of the Northern districts. Have therefore dropped the matter. The Vakil sent to Salabat Jang's camp in 1755, safely delivered the letter to Salabat Jang, for the latter acknowledged its receipt in the first letter he wrote about the dismissal of the French. That letter might have had some weight in procuring their dismissal. On hearing of the loss of Calcutta, addressed the Moghal Emperor demanding the restoration of their privileges. Also wrote fully to Balaji Rao and Salabat Jang.

The report of a war by a French ship which arrived in April and that brought a month later by the *Delawar*, were sent down by letters lodged to the southward to meet Watson, then expected from Bombay. On May 14, Watson arrived at Fort St.

David with his whole Squadron (except the *King Fisher* sloop, which joined some days later). As war was expected, he remained off Fort St. David so as to be to the windward of Pondichery. Though Watson had no orders to stop French ships, yet, as war was expected, the Committee desired him to prevent any considerable supplies being suddenly thrown into Pondichery and to stop such of the French ships as appeared to be equipped for hostilities, but not those fitted after the ordinary manner of their trading ships. He accordingly stationed ships in the offing and suffered none to pass unsearched. The only French ship from Europe that appeared had few men on board. As the French fleet, of which intimation was given in the Company's despatch of December 15, 1755, was daily expected on the Coast, measures were taken to strengthen the defences of the several settlements. For the security of Madras, the King's regiment and the train at Fort St. David were brought up by the Squadron. As the Squadron was sickly and unfit to cruise against the strong currents and winds of the Coast, and as the French were not likely to appear unless they had a much stronger naval force than ours, desired Watson to remain at Madras instead of returning southward until further news should be received. On October 9, Watson hoisted the Blue Flag on receipt of His Majesty's Commission as Vice-Admiral. At the same time, he received orders to return to England with his whole Squadron, but assured Pigot that in case of need he would leave in Bengal the 50 gun-ship, the 20 gun-ship and the sloop. When the Squadron sailed for Bengal on October 16, Watson was requested to put in at Madras on his way from Bengal, so as to bring back troops if necessary and give the Committee an opportunity of making further application to him, in case the Company's affairs demanded it. The news of the Squadron's recall seems to have been mentioned in private letters, for it was publicly known on the very day of the receipt of the order.

Colonel Adlercron arrived at Madras on May 10, and soon after received the letter from the Secretary at War which put an end to the disputes about the right of command in the Company's garrisons. Captain Schaub was tried by a general court-martial, composed of Company's and His Majesty's officers and acquitted. On Watson's demand, 280 of the King's troops were embarked on the men-of-war to complete their complement when it was decided to search the French ships. There are still on board about 250

whom Watson will land in Bengal if necessary. Both Major Lovett and Lieutenant-Colonel Bagshaw have been permitted to go home. Colonel Adlercron's opposition to the Golconda expedition and his refusal to spare a detachment of His Majesty's forces or the train for the Bengal service show that he has not 'shown himself on all occasions a zealous promoter of the Company's welfare.' His Majesty's troops cost the Company about a third less than if they were our own.

The projected meeting between Leyrit and Pigot never took place, for Leyrit who first proposed it afterwards withdrew it. Matters are still unsettled in the contested districts. At the end of May, a party of French sepoys attempted to seize a villager suspected to be on the English side and one of our Company's peons was killed. As Leyrit refused to give any satisfaction for this insult, the Commissaries—Captain Gaupp and Ensign Bannatyne—have been recalled, but a strong body of sepoys is kept in the Karunguli fort to watch the French Company's agents, and reside in the several villages to secure to the Nawab his half share of the revenues. But the inhabitants have suffered so much by the oppression of the French sepoys that there is little cultivation. On the English complaint, Leyrit suspended the fortifications at Porto Novo and Villiyanallur, but he would not demolish what had already been built. Fairfield and Call held an enquiry into the encroachments complained of by the inhabitants of the village of Tiruvendipuram, and their proceedings were forwarded to the Governors of Pondichery and Negapatam. One French ship has arrived at Pondichery from the Islands but brought no recruits.

Supplement.—As directed by the Company's despatch to Bombay of March 26, 1755, Clive came round on the *Kent* and reached Madras, May 26. Although the Company ordered all the troops and artillery despatched to Bombay to be sent on to Madras should the intended Deccan expedition not take place, nevertheless none have been sent. Although Madras thrice applied to Bombay—when it was resolved to send assistance to Salabat Jang, when it was decided to send Major Killpatrick with a party to Bengal, and again when it was agreed to send a second detachment thither—all that has been received from Bombay is 6 six-pounders and some gunpowder captured at Gheria too bad to be used even for salutes. Again a fourth application was made when it was resolved to send Clive and Watson to Bengal, and it is hoped that this may be more fruitful especially as the Bombay

Committee admitted having 1,570 men in garrison before the arrival of their recruits. In order to strengthen the English Squadron and enable it not only to meet the expected French expedition but also to prevent French vessels cruising off Point Palmyras, Bombay was desired to send the *Protector* and the *Revenge*, but refused; when the former was sent, she was unarmed. 200 men sent on the *Dodington* were lost, while 100 are detained at Sumatra; 250 of the King's forces are embarked on the Squadron; 300 are detained at Bombay; and 800 have been sent to Bengal. Have about 800 men left, but still hope for some reinforcements from Bombay, and the return of some troops from Bengal in the next year. Captain Spears refunded the 600 Rs. he improperly received from the Devikottai sepoys. But more of his malpractices having been discovered, it was proposed to try him by a court-martial. He thereupon has resigned his commission and proceeds home on this ship.[1] On Wynch's removal to Fort St. David the question arose whether he should continue as a member of the committee. It was resolved that he should; and secret instructions to St. David were therefore addressed to him and Colonel Clive jointly. On September 29, Manningham arrived from Bengal and stated that several parts of the advices received thence were inaccurate. He is therefore being furnished with copies of Bengal advices. Although the Company's despatch of February 13, 1756, countermands the plan of joining with the Marathas against Salabat Jang, yet it appears to be by far the best, if war is renewed in India and if Salabat Jang is unwilling to break again with the French, 'for the voice of the Morattas is of great weight even at Delhi.' On November 12, news was received of the declaration of war with France. It was immediately communicated to all garrisons and to Bengal. Watson and Clive were recommended to seize Chandernagore if practicable. Hear that Bombay is sending 500 men to Bengal. Clive has been ordered to return early next year with as many men as he can bring and Watson has been desired to give them passage. The western side of Fort St. George is now pretty secure; but the northern side being very weak, the Engineer has drawn out a plan of its defence which has been adopted and will be completed in six weeks as the works will be constructed of earth.

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[1] I think he afterwards went out to Bengal in the Company's Military Service and again misconducted himself.

DESPATCH FROM GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., COUNCIL AT MADRAS, TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, NOVEMBER 21, 1756. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 22, *pp.* 16–92 (*copy* 77 *pp.*)]

Cite despatch of October 13. This goes by the *Chesterfield*. The *Delawar*, sent to Bengal last July, was still at Fulta by the last advices. On October 16, the *Walpole* and the *Marlborough* sailed to Bengal with men and stores accompanied by His Majesty's Squadron. Supply of tonnage for Sumatra pepper. Expect to have 1,000 bales in the godown, and by January 1,000 more from the Northern settlements. These with the St. David's investment and saltpetre from Bengal will suffice to lade two ships homeward. Have used old iron guns for the kintlage of the *Chesterfield*, as saltpetre is stocked to be made into gunpowder. As the Company's ship *Prince George*, stationed as a guard ship at the Negrais, needed repairs, she was ordered to Bengal and a country ship the *George* sent in her place with a cargo laden at Vizagapatam. The *Prince George* was taken and burnt by the Moors in the Hugli. The *Arcot* snow has at last been refitted at Vizagapatam and will be despatched to the Negrais with rice as soon as she can be got out of the bar. The *Cuddalore* sloop has been placed under Pigot's orders for secret service. The *Dragon* sloop is employed between Madras and St. David. Have ordered three long boats to be built at Vizagapatam for Sumatra. The *Protector* arrived on October 11. The failure of the Southern investment for some years past has rendered it impossible to despatch the October ship by the 10th of that month, as she has had to wait for the bales from the northward; the Company's orders cannot therefore be carried out; but if the weather is rough, ships shall be ordered out into deep water. Accounts current and reports on damaged goods will be prepared as directed. As the boats were all engaged by the Squadron, only a small part of the redwood could be loaded on the China ships. The Prussian ship which arrived on the Coast last year, on not being allowed to trade at Madras, proceeded to Masulipatam where her cargo was sold at a low rate to the French Chief and contracts were made for large quantities of piece-goods. She then proceeded to Bengal, and was freighted to the Moors who sent her to Madras with a lading of rice. On her return to Bengal, she is reported to have been lost on the Braces.

Have strictly observed the Company's orders regarding sale of woollen goods, but with even less success than last year. Owing

to the general decline of commerce, only 230 bales were sold (as against 260 the year before) and that 'at one Pagoda advance;'[1] and 1,100 still remain unsold. Nearly three-fourths of the perpetuanoes have been worm-eaten owing to delay in disposing of them according to the Company's orders. The remains of last year's copper sold at 96 Pags. and lead at 13 Pags. 13½ fns. *per* candy. This year, fine copper sold at 90 Pags. 8 fns. and the coarse at 90 Pags. 32¾ fns.; and lead at 13 Pags. 9 fns. As coarse copper sells as well as fine, none of the latter need be sent. The Bengal cargoes by the *Chesterfield* and *Walpole* which were landed here shall be forwarded when that Presidency is re-established. Including the charges of the expedition, over 9 lakhs of rupees have already been supplied to Bengal. Have sent thither only so much Madeira wine as will be sufficient for their 'present expence in their distressed circumstances.' Last vintage at Madeira is 22s. a pipe cheaper. The quality is generally pretty good. John De Rous not being considered a proper person to be entrusted with the sole management of the powder-mill at Egmore, Alexander Wynch (the Military Storekeeper) was given a contract for common powder at 28 Pags. a candy. On his removal to Fort St. David, Charles Bourchier took over the contract. Owing to the Bengal expedition, are in no condition to spare a single man capable of bearing arms; but in obedience to the Company's orders will send a few Coffree men slaves to St. Helena. Most of those now in the Company's service are deserters from the French. In spite of all endeavours to maintain the credit of the Mint, complaints sometimes arise from the ignorance or particular customs of the country people. Some months ago, complaints were made of Madras Pagodas sent to Ingeram, etc., apparently because they were alloyed with more copper than usual, but on testing they were found to be of proper touch. As the objection was probably due to the copper alloy, have ordered greater quantity of silver to be used as alloy. The standard weights and scales sent for use at St. David have been sent thither.

In regard to the investment of fine goods, the method of advertising for proposals had been tried in vain the year before when no satisfactory proposal was received. In spite of the Company's orders therefore it was resolved in April to offer a provision of fine goods to Telisinga Chetti, Linga Chetti, Saravana

[1] See *Public Consultations*, June 1, July 5 and September 3, 1756. The lots put up for sale were invoiced at 500 Pagodas, offered at 575, and sold at 576.

Chetti, Gandavidi Venkatarama and Nalla Chetti, on condition that they provided a large quantity of coarse goods also. But as the Company in its Despatch of December 19, 1755, still insisted on advertising for tenders, notice was given [in July] at Madras and St. David. No proposals have yet been received. The fine goods now sent are better than those previously provided. Soot romals have been provided both here and at St. David; but it is believed that all are made near the latter place. They are much more expensive than those from Bengal, perhaps because they are of the same fabric as that which women wear throughout the Country. Will consult Manningham who is now here as to the possibility of making good on the Coast the deficiency of fine goods from Bengal. In spite of all the efforts of the St. David's Council, the cloth brought in by the merchants there is very bad, but they now promise better. Andiyappa (or Khan Mudaliyar) and Tennavaraya Pillai, Fort St. David merchants, who jointly owe the Company 15,389 Pags. have been given further time to get in their debts so as to be enabled to pay in the Company's balance. Lahore indigo is scarce and dear in these parts. Have sent a small quantity of indigo both from Madras and St. David. The renters assert that little can be grown on the ground round Madras. The St. David's Council report that, in peace times and in good seasons, the bounds and the places adjacent produce from 50 to 80 candies. The country farther out produces from 4 to 5 hundred candies a year, but is in possession of the French. In spite of the greatest care, the pilferage from the bales cannot be prevented especially in transporting them on board the ship, though a Company's peon is sent on every boat. A fraud of this kind was detected in loading the *Delawar*.

Refer to the Consultations for their conduct in regard to Bengal affairs. The general trade of India which has been declining for many years must suffer still more by the troubles in Bengal, 'the great mart of India.' Have no recent news from the Negrais, but there is a report that the Burmese are in a fair way of completely overthrowing the Peguers, which it is hoped may prove true. The Select Committee will report on the Nawab's debts.

The defences of the Fort to the westward have been greatly advanced in the last 4 months at a cheaper rate than before, suitable clay having been found. The Engineer will address the Company separately. The bridge upon the Island is completed, but has cost 18 instead of 8 thousand Pags. This however includes moving the earth dug out of the bed of the river to form the

new glacis. The new barracks have been occupied by the King's Regiment ever since they came to Madras. Though not yet finished, they cost 22,000 Pags., i.e., 10,000 more than the estimate. Great difficulty has been felt in obtaining coolies for the works. Those living here can get better pay from others, and those outside are unwilling to change their residence. In July Brohier declared that 10,000 husbandmen could be obtained from the Madras districts; but the renters reported that they could collect only 3,000 whose absence for one month at that time, being the sowing season, would involve a loss which they reckoned at 45,000 Pags. It was therefore resolved that they should only send so many as could be spared without injury to cultivation. Consider that the supply of bricks for the Company under the management of the Committee of Works should be continued. Have appointed a Committee of Works at Fort St. David consisting of two members of Council and John Call. They have invited proposals for the supply of building materials, but have received none. It is not possible to form similar committees at other settlements owing to a lack of servants.

Although Devikottai is not of commercial importance, its retention is necessary as the key to the Tanjore country, through which communication with Trichinopoly and the Southern provinces may be kept open. The lands round it, if improved, would produce sufficient revenues to meet the cost of the settlement. Have therefore ordered some new works to be added to the fort, the old works to be repaired, with three magazines and officers' quarters at a cost of 7,000 Pags. Have not yet begun to build the new powder-mill according to the model sent out by the *Onslow*; but as all the powder produced by two mills are required in these times of danger, the new mill will be built as soon as possible. It was hoped that the abolition of the Chintadripet duties would have saved the Company all further trouble on that subject; but as the Company desires, on Tullie's behalf, an enquiry into the conduct of Narayanan's trustees, the following account is furnished which it is believed will convince them that nothing more can be done for Tullie or other creditors:—In Benyon's time, a weaving settlement was established at Chintadripet with a view to increasing the Company's investment. Benyon's dubash (Kuddam Narayanan or Andiyappa) was placed in charge of it. He and his partners received various advances from the Company, engaging to repay them out of certain temple duties which they were allowed to collect. But Narayanan dying a few years later,

his estate proved insolvent. His son Jaggoo was then given permission to collect the duties on account of his father's estate, but had to relinquish the attempt. The duties were then collected by the Company, and till their suspension realized 1,600 Pags. leaving the estate still indebted to the Company for 8,400 Pags. Trustees had been appointed to wind up the deceased's private affairs, with some inspectors to supervise them, and these collected and distributed 7,800 Pags. and nothing more remains to be realized. Narayanan never had any grants in the Poonamallee, etc. countries though he was granted a village, Kadapakkam, north of Madras, which is now in the Company's hands and produces 200 Pags. a year. When the Nawab granted Saunders the *Naubat* he intended to grant villages for its maintenance. Have now obtained from the Nawab a grant of the Poonamallee killa and jaghir on condition of paying annually 1,000 Pags. to the late killedar's family. This produces 4,200 Pags. *per annum* which is more than double the cost of the *Naubat*. Propose to restore the confiscated houses to the owners on condition that they dispose of them only to European Protestants.

As the new barracks encroached on the silver mint, it was necessary to rent some adjacent ground and godowns together with a dwelling house in the Choultry Gate street belonging to the estate of the late Coja Petrus Uscan. When the Council offered to buy this property, the executor declared that he could not sell it under the deceased's will. On this, under the Company's orders of August 23, 1751, Council ordered the executor to sell that and another house at the Choultry Gate street at a public outcry, at which the former was bought for 1,010 Pags.

The following farms have been let:—

Farms.	Period.	Present rent.	Former rent.
	YEARS.	PAGS.	PAGS.
Devikottai	1	9,220	4,200
St. Thomé	1	4,100	3,150
Poonamallee and jaghir	1	51,650	52,400
Tiruvendipuram	1	6,100	8,000
Ruby brokerage	1	465	305
Tiruvottiyur, etc.	5	2,220	1,300
Egmore, etc.	5	1,600	1,250
Perambur, etc.	5	1,550	1,206

The Select Committee have let the mortgaged countries as follows:—

Mortgaged countries.	Period.	Present rent.	Former rent.
	YEARS.	PAGS.	PAGS.
Chingleput	2	28,500	27,250
Covelong	1	8,000	8,000
Seven Maganams	1	19,000	20,000
Manimangalam	1	13,000	14,000

To provide a stock of grain against times of scarcity, it is stipulated in the cowles for Devikottai, St. Thomé, Poonamallee and Tiruvendipuram that part of their rent shall be paid in grain to be delivered at the Company's godowns in March. In regard to Devikottai, etc. farms, it was debated[1] whether Europeans should be allowed to bid or stand as security and it was decided that they should not. Last year and this year, the Poonamallee renter, being unable to give personal securities, offered a deposit of 10,000 Pags. As he is a capable person and has often rented the country in the past, the offer was accepted. It is certain that there are few renters rich enough to find out of their pocket so large a sum as the Poonamallee renter. If sureties are insisted on, the renters may have to pay 5 *per cent.* on the rent and this must diminish the Company's revenues. Yet the Council considers that a security is very necessary. Desire the Company's orders.

Pigot is gratified to hear of the Company's appreciation of his services. On May 25, Clive arrived from Bombay and took his seat here as Second, and shortly after went to Fort St. David as Deputy Governor. He came back in August and proceeded to Bengal on October 16, as Commander-in-chief of the land forces. Alexander Wynch cheerfully obeyed the order to proceed to Fort St. David [as Second]. He has been succeeded as Store-keeper by John Smith. Charles Bourchier returned from Bombay, May 25, and has been appointed to the Committee of Works instead of Powney who had served on it for two years. Palk, who intends returning to Europe with the Squadron, has been permitted to remain here to settle his affairs. Propose to appoint to his place Richard Cobb (Chaplain to Admiral Watson). Have recalled Boddam from Vizagapatam, but allowed him to remain

[1] *Public Consultations*, May 25.

there as a private person till January to settle his affairs. He has been succeeded by John Lewin Smith. Have informed Dawsonne Drake of Devikottai of his dismissal, but permitted him to remain there till he has settled his affairs. Appointed James Bourchier Chief of Devikottai. Starke handed over charge to Clive, returned to Madras in August, and requested leave to resign the service as he had been superseded by Clive. James Broadbent, arrived in 1754, has resigned and was permitted to return to Europe *via* China. Charles Simpson's conduct continuing unsatisfactory, he was transferred to Fort St. David. Brooke returned from the Negrais in ill-health. Have not yet decided what to allow him for his extraordinary expenses. John Walsh and Thomas Maunsell proceeded to Bengal as Paymaster and Commissary to the expedition. Richard Brickenden desires to be restored to the rank originally intended for him but which he lost by being detained in England owing to sickness. Charles Saunders died at Fort St. David, August 29 and John Browning at Madras, October 25. Simpson, Stratton, Greenslate, Dawson, Best, Clarke, Carey, Calland and Maunsell, being now of age, have executed fresh covenants. Smith, who was sent to examine Hopkins' Devikottai accounts, found in them overcharges to the extent of 2,511 Pags. Hopkins being ordered to repay this sum, desired assistance to recover debts due to him in the Shiyali country. Orders have been given accordingly. Colonel Lawrence returns thanks for the continuance of the Company's good opinion and assures them that he will continue to merit it. As the pay settled on Colonel Lawrence is insufficient to defray his necessary expenses in the rank of Commander-in-chief, and indeed is thought to be less than the advantages of commanding an Artillery Company, have allowed him 100 Pags. a month more until the Company's orders are received. Captain Edmund Maskelyne continues in the military service. The two artillery companies have been re-organized as directed. Have appointed to the First Company, Captain Lewis D'Illens, Captain-Lieutenant Benjamin Godwin, First Lieutenant John Dickinson, Second Lieutenant William Jennings, and fireworkers Nicholas Bonjour, John Francis Raillard and Thomas Ford; and to the Second Company, Captain John Brohier, Captain-Lieutenant Robert Barker, First Lieutenant John Francis Paschoud, Second Lieutenant Charles Erdman, and fireworkers Jonathan Brooke, Lewis Conradie and John Elly (from Sergeant in the Train). William Pye who came out volunteer in 1752 has been

given a company, also Lieutenants Achilles Preston and Richard Smith; Ensigns promoted Lieutenants, John Wood, James Ogilvie and Bryan Scotney; volunteers promoted Ensigns, Stephen Smith, John Darke, Roderick Orton, Ross Lang, Alexander Tuite, William Robson, and Norris Bowyer. William Brown and George Nicholas de Lubbers who arrived this season with brevets for Bengal have also been promoted Ensigns. In Gaupp's Company, Ensign Charles Ernest Jaegar was promoted Second Lieutenant, and volunteer John Henry Oswald Ensign. The following have resigned:—Major James Killpatrick (June 1), Captain James Spears, Lieutenant Stephen Augustus de Monchanin and Lieutenant Henry Tripsack (since died). The following have died:—Captain William Lee (July 15); Captain Lieutenant Benjamin Godwin (in Bengal); Lieutenants John North (at the Negrais, August 30), Claud Philip Lullin (April 18), Samuel Sampson (in Bengal); and John Charles Erdman (in Bengal) and Ensigns John Vouga (in Bengal), John Darke and Thomas Stevenson. Although Killpatrick was about to sail to England on the *Delawar*, yet when he was asked to take command of the Bengal detachment, he agreed to the proposal with great cheerfulness. His commission as Major in Bengal has been forwarded to him. Colonel Lawrence offered to serve in Bengal, but considering his state of health and the unhealthy climate of Bengal, the Council prevailed upon him to waive his claim. In case of war with France he will take command of the garrison at Fort St. David during Clive's absence. The Swiss companies have been incorporated with the English. Captain Polier's commission has been delivered to him. Pigot and Lawrence have arranged for the soldiers to be dieted in messes according to the Company's orders. As to the proposal to raise a fund for the relief of the disabled military, Council consider that the soldiers' pay will not bear any deductions. Have not yet decided the rate of gratuities for disabled topasses instead of pensions. Send a roll of existing pensioners. Economy is desirable, but, a well-timed liberality is sometimes 'the best economy.' The grant of a Major's brevet to Killpatrick was absolutely necessary for the conduct of the army in the field. 'An officer of the same rank with those he commands is not so cheerfully obeyed as a superiour would be.' The officer most capable of holding such a command is often a junior and in such cases, the additional expense is certainly well laid out. A Town Major is really necessary to assist the Governor in matters affecting the garrison. On receipt of the Company's orders the

additional pay was withdrawn, and there is now no Town Major, Captain Bridge having gone to Bengal as Clive's Aide-de-Camp. On his return he will act again as Town Major and be permitted to get the usual pay.

According to the Company's orders, invited tenders for victualling troops in the field, but none were received. However there have been no charges on that account for some time past. All the cadets sent the previous seasons have been promoted, except William James Tabby and John Nollikins who are too young. Gilbert Ironside is returning *via* China. Pigot suggested that the sepoys would look more martial if they wore uniform of Europe cloth. About 39 bales of broadcloth have been employed in thus clothing the sepoys. Shall try to send muster rolls of the military with casualty lists, as often as possible.

Bengal affairs have so engrossed the attention of the Council that the Committee of Accounts have necessarily fallen into arrears. For many years the Company's Shroff has been employed in examining, and sealing up in bags of 1,000 Pags., all money brought to him for examination and all money paid into Company's cash. Such bags passed current for many years. In February last, out of a remittance of 10 such bags to Fort St. David, 3 were found to contain fanams instead of pagodas. The Shroff and his assistant, who were at once arrested, confessed their guilt. The deficiency was met out of the produce of the Shroff's estate. The fanams have been confiscated. The practice of sealing bags of money has since been discontinued. The Company particularly ordered that in settling with Coja Shawmier Sultan he should only be allowed simple interest. An account was made out and the balance struck. But he objects with reason that he is charged with compound interest, and is only credited with simple. Recommend that the difference of 3,165 Rs. may be made up to him. Have discharged all the old Madras bonds, except that dated October 1, 1726, due to the Jesuit missionaries in China for 20,000 Pags. at 6 *per cent.* which the missionaries contend is irredeemable. As the Treasury was short of money, it was not paid off. The other existing bond debt is:—6,000 Pags. at 6 *per cent.* interest due to Father Severini on account of the Roman Female Orphan house; 30,000 Arcot Rs. at 6 *per cent.* interest due to Father Severini and Antonia Carvalho De Medeiros; and 20,000 Pags. at 8 *per cent.* due to Mrs. Antonia Carvalho de Medeiros. Since May 1, 1755, the Committee of Treasury have maintained a regular account of cash and bullion which have now ceased to

appear in the Import Warehouse books. Send copies of the Commissary's accounts from the beginning of that employment. Will pay Edward Brown the gratuity ordered by the Company. Enclose report of the Committee of Accounts on Eyre's account which shows a balance of 3,551 Pags. due to his estate on account of his employ as Paymaster. According to the Paymaster's copies of Captain Schaub's muster rolls, the latter made an overcharge of £107-4-8, in the payment of his detachment while prisoners of Pondichery and of some other English prisoners there. Schaub objects and desires that the original rolls may be produced. That cannot be done because they were delivered to Saunders as President. Refer the matter to the Company for decision. George Stratton (John Stratton's son) has produced accounts showing a balance of 3,403 Pags. to the credit of his father's estate.

Sumatra affairs.—Through heavy work have not yet been able to decide on the best method of deciding property disputes between Indians. As regards the deposit of suitors' money in the Company's Treasury, there is often some days' interval between the Court's order directing its deposit and a meeting of the Council at which an order may be passed for its receipt. The Court desire that the money should be paid in and a receipt given at once. This involves the irregularity of issuing a receipt without an order of Council. Have appointed Captain Edward Burman alderman in place of Andrew Munro resigned on account of ill-health, and Claud Russell, Sheriff *vice* James Bourchier removed to Devikottai.

Supplement.—A Captain, two Lieutenants, an Ensign and some Non-Commissioned Officers of Adlercron's regiment ordered home to recruit, proceed by this ship. Desire that an appropriate allowance may be made to Captain Carter for their accommodation. Since orders were issued that Coffrees should be sent to St. Helena, 17 have deserted, a thing which has not happened for many years. Now send 5 of those that remain. Ten disabled soldiers on the invalid list are now sent home. Two days ago, 306 bales of broadcloth were disposed of, whereas the previous month, not one could be sold. The invoices of Northern cloth show two prices according as batta is or is not added to the merchants' advances. Refer to despatch of March 2, 1756. Forward a packet received from the President and Council at Bengal and another from Watts and Collet. Have laded at half freight 22 tons of redwood. Private trade on the *Chesterfield* amounts to 5,235 Pags. The

charterparty tonnage consists of 1,907 bales, 30 tons of redwood, 62 chests and 4 duppers of indigo and 80 tons of iron guns for kintlage. The invoice amounts to 1,88,198 Pags. Diamonds, etc., registered amount to 84,696 Pags. In the Treasury, there remain 42 chests of silver weighing 12,208 pounds, 4,63,106 Arcot Rs., 505 Rs., 78 Madras Pags. and 1,42,854 current Pags.; in the Mint, 1,58,785 Arcot Rs., 45,300 current Pags. and 5,111 Madras Pags. and in the cash chest 16,780 current Pags.

Postscript.—News of war has just arrived from Bombay, and Lawrence now therefore takes ship for Fort St. David. His additional allowance now ceases as the Company has ordered all his expenses to be defrayed for him when he is not at the Presidency. The bills drawn on the Company amount to 16,383 Pags.

Appended are—(1) register of diamonds, etc. (pp. 94—102); (2) manifest of private trade (p. 103); (3) Captain Carter's agreement (p. 104); (4) lists of packets (pp. 105—113); and (5) sailing orders, etc., for the *Chesterfield* (pp. 114—117).

DESPATCH FROM THE SELECT COMMITTEE AT MADRAS TO THE SECRET COMMITTEE. FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 28, 1757. [*Military Despatches to England, Vol.* 1, *pp.* 61—70 (*copy* 9½ *pp.*).]

Cite despatches of October 11 and November 20, 1756. Have received the Company's despatch of May 25 by pattamars from Anjengo. His Majesty's ship *Triton* arrived there December 27. Hitherto the war has not produced any change on this Coast. As the French and the English are equally weak, nothing can be gained by commencing hostilities; are therefore attempting to preserve the tranquillity of the province so that the revenues may not be interrupted. The French appear to be acting on the same principle. Two ships, the *Séichelle* (Captain Craignoux) and *Duc de Berry* (Captain St. Martin) reached Pondichery on the 3rd. They are reported to have made a long voyage from Europe and to have brought 200 men. Have received news of the recapture of Calcutta. His Majesty's ships *Cumberland* and *Blaze* failed to proceed with the rest of the Squadron. The former put into Vizagapatam; and the latter has proceeded to Bombay. Further details of the expedition to Bengal. This despatch is sent in duplicate to Anjengo and Bombay as the vessels despatched to Bengal are not calling here. The Bengal Committee complain of Madras having reserved power to recall Colonel Clive in the event of war with France and of his being authorized to carry out military operations on his own responsibility. Two reasons other than

those previously adduced, may be added, viz., the uncertain situation of the Bengal Council and their great want of harmony. The necessity of reserving power to recall Clive is further shown by the situation of the Northern settlements, for the security of which nothing can be done though they are exposed to the daily risk of being lost, while the Company's possessions in Arcot are barely defensible; and while Madura is actually possessed and Tinnevelly threatened by rebels. On October 10, Bussy and Law took leave of Salabat Jang and marched on the 16th. Law proceeded with a small party to Masulipatam where he now is. Bussy marched by Ellore and Rajahmundry to Chicacole, two days' march from Vizagapatam. The presence of the *Cumberland* will, perhaps, prove a protection to that settlement, but even if 50 men were landed, the place would not be tenable. However, the French may not care to attack the Northern factories lest the English should attempt reprisals and thus prevent them from collecting their revenues as usual. Have instructed the Chiefs there to have vessels ready to secure the Company's effects in case of danger. Though the Nawab has desired the English to attack the killedars of Chetpattu, Elavanasur and other poligars, nothing has been done because this would at once bring the French into the field with at least equal forces. The King of Tanjore has seized the fort and district he claims from Tondiman. Although the Committee agreed to advance 2 lakhs of rupees out of the Tinnevelly revenues to Mahfuz Khan's mutinous troops on condition of their delivering up the Madura fort to the Company, nevertheless the offer was at last refused and the rebels began to make alliances with the poligars and ravage the Tinnevelly Country. Mahfuz Khan is reported to have now allied himself with the poligars and to have marched from Madura to conquer Tinnevelly. Caillaud has been ordered to march to Madura with as many men as can be spared from Trichinopoly, which is about 100 Europeans. The Tinnevelly renter complains of great losses by these disturbances, but as accounts have not yet been settled with him, it is not known how the revenues will suffer. The west face of Fort St. George is now defensible, but the works to the northward which were expected to be finished in 6 weeks, will, it is estimated, take as many months. Colonel Clive has again been directed to return to Madras with as many troops as possible before the season is too late, as it is hoped that his successes have led to a treaty with the Nawab of Bengal. As 400 men had been sent from Bombay and as sepoys are being sent by this ship, it is

hoped that the Bengal Council will not object to Clive's return. Have received no news from Watson. Orme's secret negotiations [with Mysore] have not produced any result worth mentioning. Bengal affairs. As soon as there is a prospect of being able to proceed with the regular fortification of Calcutta, Brohier will be sent down thither; meanwhile he will carry on the works to the northward of Fort St. George. Having received no orders from Watson, Pocock arrived here from Vizagapatam on February 21 and will proceed in 2 or 3 days to Bengal.

DESPATCH FROM THE SELECT COMMITTEE AT MADRAS TO THE SECRET COMMITTEE. FORT ST. GEORGE, MARCH 14, 1757. [*Military Despatches to England, Vol.* 1, *pp.* 70–71 (*copy* 1½ *pp.*).]

Cite despatch of February 28, 1757. Details regarding conclusion of peace in Bengal, received by a private letter, dated February 12; and the report of the master of a country vessel. As it is thought that the *Cumberland* will not be able to guard the Hugli at this time of the year, it is hoped that she will be returned to the Coast with all troops that can be spared. Report Ahmad Shah Abdalli's capture of Delhi. Send this overland by Basra.

DESPATCH FROM GEORGE PIGOT, &C., COUNCIL AT MADRAS TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, JUNE 6, 1757. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 22, *pp.* 118—152 (*copy* 35 *pp.*).]

Cite despatch of November 21, 1756. Could not write in January as all the ships were detained in Bengal. Acknowledge the receipt of despatch, dated July 28, 1756.

This goes by the *Walpole* which only arrived here from Bengal on April 13, too late to sail for Europe that season. She is now laden and is ready to sail at a moment's notice should that be necessary. The *Marlborough* will be returned to Bengal to be laded there for Europe in September. China and Bombay shipping. The *Revenge* and *Protector* arrived from Bengal on April 27 to take in stores and provisions for the Squadron. Have detained the former for the protection of the *Walpole* and China ships and have put her stores on the *Marlborough*. Have been obliged to freight the *Hartop* snow, for 2,000 Pags. for the voyage to Sumatra to carry salt and stores thither. Have purchased a ship of about 300 tons for 5,250 Pags. She will cost about 2,000 Pags. more to fit her out. She is named the *Duke* and is chiefly for the Sumatra service. Thomas Powney is appointed to command her. The *Arcot* snow,

purchased at Batavia in 1752, being past repair, has been sent to Bengal for sale as no one here would buy her. Purchased a sloop of 50 tons for 2,700 Rs. and ordered another to be built at Vizagapatam, both for the Sumatra service. The 3 long boats built for Sumatra at Vizagapatam will shortly be despatched thither. Movements of the *Cuddalore* sloop.

On inspection, the perpetuanoes in the warehouse were found considerably damaged by worms. This will increase the longer the goods are kept. It would be well to dispose of the whole at once, but this cannot be effected by public sale. Calcutta having been retaken, will now forward the Bengal stores detained here last season. Cash balance being very low, cannot comply with the pressing requests from Bengal for remittances, until treasure arrives from England. They want all treasure to be sent in bullion, as the Nawab there has permitted the opening of a mint at Calcutta.

As the loss of Calcutta threatened to deprive the Company of fine goods from Bengal, the Council considered whether this deficiency could be made good at Madras. According to Manningham who was consulted, fine goods are procured much cheaper in Bengal. As Calcutta is recovered, no further steps are likely to be necessary. As regards the Company's desire to encourage weavers to settle within the bounds of Madras, as in Calcutta, the plan was tried once before at Chintadripet and failed. In fact the plan is not feasible as provisions are dearer on the Coast than inland. It is the immemorial custom here to advance the weaver almost the full value of every article of manufacture and that is why the merchants are always indebted to the Company. This must continue so long as there are other European competitors. Even on the condition of the usual advances, it is difficult to find substantial merchants to undertake the investments. But if the merchants themselves found capital to be advanced to the weavers, they would expect additional profit. The employment of gumastas to buy up cloth ready made as is done in Bengal could not produce any large quantity of cloth. Have ordered a reduction in the prices of the northern cloths according to the Company's wishes. It was never intended to conceal the fact that the northern Chiefs provided the Company's investment and made some (small) profit out of it; but they are also responsible for all bad debts, any loss on their way down to Madras, and cloths rejected in the resortment at the Presidency. Do not know when this practice arose, but presume it must have been approved by the

Company. In case this is considered improper, some extra allowance must be given to the Chief at Vizagapatam, similar to that allowed to the Deputy Governor of Fort St. David, for he should be a person of capacity and some standing in service. The fabric of ordinary goods provided here has improved. 1,937 bales have been delivered since the *Eastcourt's* despatch and 900 more are ready for delivery. Have on hand 60,000 Pags. worth of fine goods and chintz, but only lade half on the present ship in order to keep the value of the cargoes as nearly equal as possible. However all the beteellas are sent as they are likely to be in demand owing to the lack of Bengal goods. The present St. David investment is better and larger than in previous years, as their weaving countries have been in peace and the French short of money. Seven hundred and fifty bales have been provided and more would have been, had not the advances been cut down owing to the fear of war. The Northern Settlements have provided 2,700 bales. Orme had already been made Export Warehouse-keeper before the receipt of the Company's orders.

The Burmese are now reported to have conquered the Pegu country and occupied all its fortresses except Pegu itself which however is not expected to hold out long. Even before this, the Burmese King was asked for a grant of a settlement at Persaim. He did so; and Captain Howes selected a favourable spot where English colours were hoisted and preparations made to build a fort. But it is believed that this place has now been abandoned, as the country people object to its nearness to one of their pagodas. The King would probably grant a settlement in Syrian itself, but the Council has suspended negotiations till the receipt of the answer to the despatch by the *Hardwicke*. Now forward a letter from the Burmese King to His Majesty written on a leaf of gold, and another from him to the Company. Captain John Howes was appointed Chief of the Negrais, owing to his merit and abilities but died September 26.

Great progress has been made in the fortifications here, and in a few months it is hoped that they will be so far complete as to secure the place against attack. Have demolished several houses in the Pettai to the west in order to enlarge the Esplanade, and removed the rising ground to form the rampart and the glacis. Their value is estimated at 7,600 pagodas. The variable revenues of Madras declined last year by more than 8,000 pagodas, proving the great decline of trade. Customs on coining Madras pagodas

declined by 300 pagodas, but that on Star pagodas increased by 780 pagodas. Customs on goods imported fell off by 8,643 pagodas and that on grain and anchorage rose by 3,373 pagodas. Land Customs declined by almost half. The variable revenues at Fort St. David rose by 190 pagodas owing to a large quantity of goods brought in by the Company's investment being rejected, dyed blue and exported, under payment of duty. The various farms were let as follows:—

Farms.	Period.	Present rent *per annum.*	Former rent *per annum.*
MADRAS.	YEARS.	PAGS.	PAGS.
Paddy fields and salt pans	5	915	715
Company's old garden	5	226	196
Arrack and wine license	5	7,810	4,000
Betel and tobacco	5	11,200	8,000
Measuring duty	5	1,610	1,000
Town brokerage	5	2,810	700
Banksall	5	1,100	400
DEVIKOTTAI	1	7,100	9,220
ST. THOMÉ	1	3,740	4,100
FORT ST. DAVID.			
Betel and tobacco	5	6,840	3,000
Weighing and measuring duty	5	400	400
Arrack and wine license	5	2,260	2,000

Wynch, on succeeding Clive as Deputy Governor of Fort St. David, applied for the latter's allowances. The Council left it to Clive on his return to decide what portion of them should be given to Wynch. As Wynch was not satisfied with this decision, the matter is referred to the Company. Charles Boddam arrived from Vizagapatam in February. When Foss Westcott, Resident at Ingeram, was permitted to come to the Presidency for health, affairs at Ingeram were placed under the direction of John Calland. But as he has since been permitted to leave Ingeram, another will be made Chief. Admit the fitness of Andrews to be Chief of Vizagapatam, but have appointed Percival as he is senior. Percival was succeeded as Land Customer first by Powney and then by Westcott. Hallet Saunders [arrived May 1756] and Charles Frederick Noble [arrived August 1756], factors for Sumatra, could not at once proceed thither for lack of opportunity. Noble has been employed under the Engineer. Saunders sailed for Sumatra last month and Noble will follow him. Andrew Munro, Surgeon, being aged and infirm, has been relieved of his duties at the hospital and appointed to act as Physician on his former pay in

consideration of his long and faithful service. Wilson will be called up from Trichinopoly to assist Turing in the hospital. The Surgeon at Vizagapatam has been receiving 70 pagodas a year for the provision of Europe medicines. Wilson, the present Surgeon there, complains that this is insufficient as the garrison has increased. Many sick have been sent thither from the Negrais, and the topasses who were formerly attended by the 'Black doctors' have been placed under his care. Pending receipt of orders, have allowed him 15 pagodas a month. Recommend that the garrison be supplied in the same way as Fort St. David. In regard to the complaints brought by Captain D'Illens against Fairfield (Storekeeper), Turner (Paymaster), Call (Engineer) and Captain Gardner (Commandant), an examination showed most of them to be frivolous and orders had already been passed to redress real injuries. Charles Hopkins died February 7. His executors have not yet collected his assets. Lieutenant Thomas Rumbold has been promoted Captain. The following officers have died:—Captain John Howes, at the Negrais, September 26, 1756; Captains Timothy Bridge and William Pye, killed in Bengal, February 5, 1757; Captain Dugald Campbell and Ensign Charles Kerr, killed in Bengal, December 29, 1756; and Captain Lewis D'Illens of the Artillery, at Fort St. David, March 1, 1757.

At the request of the ministers and church wardens, have received and given bonds for 12,000 pagodas at 7% on account of the church stock. The defaulting shroffs have paid up 2,000 pagodas due from them. George Stratton being unable to produce complete vouchers for his claims on the Company on behalf of his father's estate, the matter is referred to the Company for decision.

Sumatra affairs.

As the Company's servants at Sumatra have fewer opportunities for trade than those of any other settlements, it has always been thought reasonable that they should enjoy the exclusive privilege of trade in the ports of the West Coast of that island. On the advice of the Supervisors lately appointed, the Council declared this trade completely reserved to them. But this restriction has been disregarded by the servants in Bengal. Desire the Company's orders on the subject.

Andrew Ross was appointed Major in December, and George Stratton, Sheriff. Have appointed as Aldermen Henry Brooke *vice* John Browning deceased, and Claud Russell *vice* Dawsonne Drake absent; and Alexander Dalrymple as Accountant General *vice* Claud Russell. A French ship *L'Indien* was taken off the

Malabar Coast in November last by Captain William James of the Company's ship the *Revenge* and brought into Madras for condemnation. As there seems to be no power to establish prize courts, nothing more was done than taking the depositions of witnesses. Consider it advisable to obtain powers for the condemnation of prizes. Enclose recent correspondence with the Mayor's Court which suggests that the former Court must have had some stock of their own in 1743 when they surrendered their revenues to the Company on condition that the Company bears their expenses. On the other hand, according to their own statements (recorded in Consultations, dated January 9 and 23,1744) in the 7 years previous, expenses exceeded the revenues by 2,375 Pags. which deficit seems to have been made good by lending out at interest the estates deposited in the Court, from which source the 2,000 Pags. lent in June 1746 on Joseph Smith's house must also have been derived. Conclude therefore that the present Court can have no claim to the money deposited under the head of 'sundry persons unknown' which they wish to employ in buying the house and warehouse just behind the present court-house for use as a jail. Consider that the godowns under the court-house had better be converted into a jail. Have assigned the general hall under the Consultation room in the Fort House to the Court of Requests as the Mayor's Court refused to allow it to use the Town Hall without a formal application.

Supplement.—Owing to want of saltpetre have made up in bales the deficiency in the *Walpole's* kintlage goods, as she is sufficiently stiff not to need additional ballast which under the charterparty would have been carried at half freight. The *Walpole's* Bengal cargo amounts to 18,449 Rs. which with the Madras cargo makes up a total of 1,89,836 Pags. exclusive of the 50 candies of saltpetre which have been taken out. Diamonds, etc., registered amount to 83,352 Pags. Private trade manifested on her amounts to 2,350 Arcot Rs. and 3,810 Pags. The cash balance in the Treasury and cash chest is 58,166 Arcot Rs., 514 Madras Rs., 25,486 Madras Pags. and 46,272 current Pags.

Postscript.—The bills drawn on the Company amount to 22,968 Pags.

Appended are—(1) register of diamonds, etc. (pp. 153—160); (2) manifest of private trade (p. 161); (3) lists of packets, etc. (pp. 162—169); and (4) sailing orders for Captain Francis Fowler of the *Walpole* (pp. 171–172).

DESPATCH FROM THE SELECT COMMITTEE AT MADRAS TO THE SECRET COMMITTEE. FORT ST. GEORGE, JUNE 6, 1757. [*Military Despatches to England, Vol.* I, *pp.* 72—84 (*copy* 13 *pp.*).]

Cite despatches of February 28 and March 14, 1757. This goes by the *Walpole*. On March 14, Captain Caillaud marched from Trichinopoly against Mahfuz Khan and the rebel poligars of Madura and Tinnevelly. On April 5, Colonel Forde was sent with 100 Europeans, 50 Coffrees and 300 sepoys to assist the Nawab's army to expel Najib-ul-lah Khan (a brother of the Nawab), renter of Nellore, who had refused to pay his rents. At the same time news came that D'Auteuil with 200 Frenchmen, was attacking Mir Sahib, killedar of Elavanasur, on account of his devastation of the French districts. The party was repulsed near the fort on April 2 by Mir Sahib; but the latter dying a few days after of a wound which he had received, and D'Auteuil receiving reinforcements from Pondichery, Mir Sahib's brother abandoned the fort and the French occupied it on April 13. Having been warned that the French disputes with Elavanasur, Udaiyarpalaiyam, etc., were only a pretence to cover a sudden attack on Trichinopoly, the Committee, on April 11, ordered a party of 50 men thither from Fort St. David, and warned Caillaud to remain near Madurâ, so that he might return immediately to Trichinopoly if necessary. D'Auteuil moved from Elavanasur to Vriddhachalam where he was joined by men from all the French garrisons. He marched on May 4, and on May 7 was repulsed in an attack on Udaiyarpalaiyam. Having agreed with the poligar for the payment of a sum of money, on May 11 he moved so rapidly on Trichinopoly that on May 12 his advanced guard encamped near Srirangam. On May 13, he crossed the Coleroon and took post at Woriyur. Captain Smith reported on May 19, that the French had raised no batteries, but apparently designed an escalade. It is hoped that the reinforcements from St. David which arrived safe under Lieutenant Gurtler, together with the former garrison will be sufficient for the defence. D'Auteuil's force is reckoned at '800 chiefly Europeans and 2,000 sepoys.' A letter from Captain Caillaud, dated May 16, reported that when encamped near Madura, he had received news from Captain Smith that 300 Frenchmen had crossed the river and were thought to be marching to join the rebels at Madura. But the next news he received must have informed him of their real purpose. His orders are to throw himself into Trichinopoly with any troops he can bring with him, as 'by his long command there'

more confidence is felt in his judgment than in that of any other. If he cannot do this, he is, with Tanjore assistance, to do his best to interrupt the siege. The importance of Trichinopoly, as commanding a large tract of country and forming 'the key to Madura and Tinnevelly,' determined the Committee to send a force for its protection, which would be done with little risk as the French had drained all their garrisons to supply D'Auteuil with men. The force has been made up of 300 Europeans and 500 sepoys from Madras; Colonel Forde's party of 100 soldiers, 50 Coffrees, and 300 sepoys recalled from Nellore; and Polier's company [of Swiss], 100 Europeans and 300 sepoys from Chingleput and Karunguli. While Polier was awaiting the arrival of the rest of the detachment, he prepared to attack Utramallur. Before his arrival the French sepoy garrison there abandoned the fort. He left 40 sepoys in the garrison. It was however retaken on May 28 by a French party from Alambarai the garrison of which has been increased to 100 Europeans and topasses and 300 sepoys. Colonel Adlercron marched with the Madras troops on May 26 and will proceed by Chingleput, Wandiwash and Vikravandi. As he must halt somewhere to permit Colonel Forde to catch him up, it has been proposed that he should retake and demolish Utramallur and if possible capture the garrison, which consisted of 100 military. It is a service of some importance. Lawrence and Wynch have been directed to supply Adlercron with intelligence of the French movements. He has been furnished with instructions as follows:—If Caillaud can get into Trichinopoly with some of his troops, and the French continue there, Adlercron is to reduce the French strongholds to the south, as Trichinopoly will not be in danger. If Caillaud cannot get into it, Adlercron is to move thither as rapidly as possible with reinforcements of 70 or 80 Europeans and 100 sepoys from Fort St. David; and Caillaud is to join him with his troops which consist of 100 Europeans, 50 Coffrees and 2,000 sepoys. If the French return from Trichinopoly towards Pondichery, Adlercron is to engage them if he feels confident of success. But in case they should be too strong, or return to Pondichery by sea by way of Karikal, he is to return to Madras. Colonel Forde arrived from Nellore May 29, and marched June 2 to join Adlercron. Najib-ul-lah Khan having quitted the Nellore fort on the approach of our men, the place was breached and assaulted. Neither the Nawab's troops nor our sepoys would assist the small party of Europeans

and Coffrees who were unable to storm the place, although they bravely maintained themselves for some time in the breach. They lost only 4 Europeans and 4 Coffrees killed and 17 Europeans and 13 Coffrees wounded, as the beseiged were poorly armed. It is hoped that the Nawab's forces under his brother are large enough to blockade the place and secure its surrender. Caillaud's march to Tinnevelly aroused several poligars who have been disposed to join the rebels. But Mahfuz Khan and his party avoided our troops and scattered in small parties to plunder. Caillaud resolved first to secure Madura. On April 29, he attempted an escalade. This failed because the ladder broke as the men crowded upon it in their eagerness; and this caused so long a delay that the garrison assembled at the point of attack. Caillaud then recalled his party which only lost 1 sepoy killed and 1 wounded. His last report states that he was trying to win over a party within the place itself.

Fear that the Northern settlements cannot be maintained. News has come that the French have seized Andrews at Bandarmalanka and are about to occupy Ingeram. They are also said to intend an attack on Vizagapatam. Although that place is reinforced by 50 men from the *Cumberland*, yet the extent and bad state of the fortifications will render it difficult to defend for any time against Bussy's army. By the last news of him, he was attacking a powerful Raja in the Chicacole country. In a like expedition about two months ago, Viziaram Razu, Raja of Rajahmundry, was stabbed while sleeping in his tent, so that Bussy controls all the country powers in that region. All these misfortunes are due to the non-arrival of men from Bengal. Five ships have put in with news of the taking of Chandernagore, but without a single man, in spite of the arrival of reinforcements from Bombay and repeated directions to return as many men as possible.

The assignments for the payment of the Nawab's debt continue as before. Bills for 3,44,625 Rs. out of the 4 lakhs due from the Arcot country, have been received. The Nellore rents have not yet been paid. Bommarazu has not yet paid any part of the 70,000 Rs. promised by his Vakil, and no part of this can be expected till demanded by armed force. The Tinnevelly renter has advanced 4,20,000 Rs. for the expenses of Yusuf Khan's and Caillaud's troops and remitted 2 lakhs to Madras and Trichinopoly by bill, out of the 11 lakhs altogether due for this year.

The ravages of Mahfuz Khan and the poligars must have occasioned great losses. The renter has been directed to furnish a statement of his receipts and expenses. The Nawab remains at Arcot. The disturbances in Nellore and Tinnevelly show that his government is not firmly established; and the French will molest his dominions as much as those of the English.

The last advices from Delhi report that the Afghans have restored the Moghal and marched to Agra after plundering the Omrahs and taking security for a large sum. They are said to be going to their own home. Balaji Rao has again invaded Mysore and obtained in ready money and securities 32 lakhs of Rupees. He is said to have occupied and garrisoned with 20,000 horse the fort of 'Sirrah' [Sirpi] on his way home. Salabat Jang with a very small French force has remained the whole year near Hyderabad. The King of Tanjore warmly declares his friendship. It is hoped he will remain firm on our side as he may be of great assistance in relieving Trichinopoly. Regarding the Mysore negotiations conducted by Orme, refer to Private Committee's[1] Proceedings of April 7 and June 6.

Have requested Admiral Watson to put in here to land the detachment of the King's Regiment when he sails from Bengal in August or September. The orders Watson received overland are not known; but on the strength of Fox's answer to the Company's memorial communicated to the President, the Committee have urged the danger of leaving the Company's settlements without the protection of any men-of-war. The arrival of His Majesty's ship *Triton* is reported at Anjengo; she is expected to sail for Madras about May 10.

Almost the whole of the King's Regiment, exclusive of the Bengal detachment, has taken the field with Adlercron, with whom we have been on very good terms since he came up from St. David's. But these troops will never render the service that might be obtained from men in the Company's own service. The sooner the officers are recalled and the men join the Company the better.

Only 2 ships have arrived this year at Pondichery, the *Séichelle* Mons. de Craigneaux and *Duc de Berry*, Mr. St. Martin, as reported in Despatch of February 28. They arrived February 3 and sailed

[1] Certain proceedings of the Select Committee on specially secret matters were recorded separately. One volume of such, covering the period November 11, 1755 to July 4, 1756, is preserved in the Madras Record Office. But those here cited seem to have been lost.

the 28th, bound, it is said, for the Islands. The declaration of war ended the discussion about our right to the districts of Karunguli and Salavakkam. If Utramallur is taken and the fort demolished, the forts of Chingleput and Karunguli should be able to protect those districts. The French forces are reckoned at 2,000 Europeans exclusive of Bussy's troops. The captain of a country ship writes from Batavia that on March 6, he saw a French ship of 60 or 70 guns cruizing in the Straits of Sunda and has heard of another of the same strength in the Straits of Bali. These were undoubtedly intended to intercept the homeward bound China ships, but the latter have escaped. Shall communicate this information to Watson.

Supplement.—Since writing the foregoing, news has arrived of Caillaud's reaching Trichinopoly on May 26 with about 100 Europeans and 1,000 sepoys. As this will relieve Trichinopoly of all danger, Adlercron has been requested to reduce Wandiwash. The killedar has not paid any dues since 1752 and has always favoured the French, so that they have been able to make unexpected incursions into the Arcot country. Its occupation must materially increase our revenues. On June 4, Adlercron was demolishing the fort at Utramallur and intended to march the next day for Wandiwash. D'Auteuil's troops marched from Trichinopoly the day after Caillaud arrived, and reached Uttatur on June 1. Should they march to relieve Wandiwash, it is feared that they will arrive before the place can be taken. Have reinforced Adlercron with 30 Europeans, 3 companies of sepoys from Arcot, and Coffrees from Madras. This should render him almost equal to D'Auteuil in strength, if allowance be made for casualties on the latter's march. Adlercron has probably been joined by the country troops belonging to the Nawab and the killedar of Chetpattu; but he has been advised to avoid action except with the greatest probability of success, as the principal object of his movements, the removal of the enemy from Trichinopoly, has been attained. Caillaud's letter of May 30 in the Proceedings of the Select Committee shows the measures he took to throw himself into Trichinopoly and his instructions to Rumbold left in charge of the troops in Madura. Caillaud's prompt resolution and success in reaching Trichinopoly confirm our opinion of his zeal and good conduct. Are considering what can be done for Madura and Tinnevelly. Captain Brohier is sailing for Bengal and has handed over charge of the fortifications to Call.

DESPATCH FROM GEORGE PIGOT, ETC. COUNCIL AT MADRAS TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 30, 1757. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 22, *pp.* 173—176 (*copy* 4 *pp.*).]

This is an additional despatch by the *Walpole*, which was detained in the hope of reporting the arrival of the outward shipping, which however has not yet come in. The *Revenge* and *Triton* sailed July 28 to cruise off Pondichery but were too late to prevent the only French ship of the season from getting safe into Pondichery. They are still cruizing there, but have only taken a 45-ton sloop in ballast. The superiority of the French in the North has proved fatal to the English settlements. On hearing from Calland of the French approach, Andrews removed most of the Company's effects from Madapollam on his private sloop which proceeded first to Vizagapatam and thence to Bengal. He sent all the military to protect Nallapalle, but they were intercepted. He himself took refuge in the Dutch factory at Palicol, but had to surrender. The fortifications and buildings at Nallapalle were completely destroyed. Madapollam, Ingeram, Bandarmalanka, and Sankarapalaiyam are now in French possession, and it is rumoured that Vizagapatam also surrendered to Bussy on June 26 The *Marlborough* is reported to have touched at Vizagapatam the day before its surrender. James Harvey, mate of country vessel, who rashly wounded two catamaran fellows by firing with a musket is ordered home on the *Walpote*, as it is thought that this will be a better example to others than any punishment which can be inflicted by the Court of Admiralty. Foss Westcott has resigned the Company's service and proceeds home on the *Walpole*. A few days ago, Pybus arrived here from Sumatra. The cash in the treasury has been reduced to 18,657 Star Pags., 35,864 Madras Pags., 52,931 Arcot Rs. and 514 Madras Rs. Will be much inconvenienced by lack of money unless the expected ships arrive soon.

DESPATCH FROM THE SELECT COMMITTEE AT MADRAS TO THE SECRET COMMITTEE. FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 30, 1757. [*Military Despatches to England, Vol.* 1, *pp.* 85—92 (*copy* 8 *pp.*).]

The *Walpole* has been detained till now, and hence this despatch. Colonel Adlercron marched June 5 from Utramallur to Wandiwash, and on the 6th reached the Pettai. Before anything could be done, most of D'Auteuil's army had reached Pondichery and marched again to the relief of Wandiwash.

Adlercron therefore marched June 8 and encamped a few miles off. As from the strength of the French no great advantage could be looked for, Adlercron was directed to return to Madras in order to avoid the expense of keeping the field. It was expected that the French would have withdrawn their troops to Pondichery for the same reason. But before Adlercron began his return march, the enemy reached Wandiwash and a party entered Utramallur only a few hours after he had left it. Adlercron ought to have waited in order to check their further advance, until he had received further directions. Instead however, without reporting the enemy's movements, he moved this way; and the day he left Chingle put, the enemy made a forced march to Conjeeveram, and plundered the town, but were repulsed from the walled pagoda by a Sergeant and 2 companies of sepoys with the loss of 1 officer, 6 Europeans killed, and about 10 wounded. When the news was received, Adlercron was only 6 miles from Madras; but the army was ordered to march out again to protect our possessions. Adlercron left the army to march under Lieutenant Colonel Forde and himself came to Madras. The Committee endeavoured to keep him there, but he thought it necessary to accompany his regiment and rejoined the army near Chingleput. The advantage of his remaining here would be that the command would have fallen on Colonel Lawrence, who in his zeal had offered to serve under Adlercron as a volunteer. When the French moved from Trichinopoly, Lawrence with all the men that could be spared from Fort St. David (about 100) went by sea to Sadras and joined the army on June 24 a few miles beyond Chingleput. Our troops took post within 4 miles of the enemy on July 10. The enemy had entrenched themselves about a mile from Wandiwash, and as our men were in good spirits and the enemy discontented and deserting, attempts were made to draw them out of their entrenchments. On July 17, a party of the Nawab's horse and some Europeans approached within cannon-shot of their camp, but were unable to entice them out. As their position was too strong to be attacked, orders were given for Chingleput and Karunguli to be reinforced, and the army marched to Conjeeveram on the 25th. The troops' batta was struck off; but it was necessary to keep the bullocks and coolies in pay, so that the army might always be ready to move. Trust that this will not be necessary, for our cash balances are low and the Company's intentions unknown. The Marathas left by Balaji Rao at Sirah have sent 8,000 horse to

Cuddapanattam, 80 miles north of Arcot, to demand the Arcot and Trichinopoly chauths which have been unpaid for some years. Balaji Rao has sent Vakils to the Nawab and to Pondichery. He demands 40 lakhs of Rs. from the Nawab, but this was reduced first to 3 lakhs and then to 2½ lakhs to be paid one half at once and the other half in a month, on the Nawab's representing that he had been obliged to expend all his revenues to repay what he had borrowed in his wars with the French. He has requested the English to advance the money. In order to gain time, as shipping may be expected at any moment, the Maratha Vakil has been invited to Madras and the Nawab requested to accompany him. The Vakil says that the French have offered 4 lakhs for the assistance of Balwanta Rao, the Commandant at Cuddapanattam; and hints that if the English do not pay, the Marathas will at once ravage the country; but it is not thought that Balaji Rao can have authorised them to go so far. The French are not believed to have 4 lakhs to give them. Morari Rao has proposed an alliance between himself and the Nawabs of Cuddapah and Kurnool to drive Balaji Rao's people from Sirah. The Committee neither discouraged nor supported this plan.

As regards Madura and Tinnevelly, have decided that it is best to maintain [Thitharappa] Mudali, because whatever Mahfuz Khan may promise, he is not likely to keep his word. As the situation in the Carnatic is uncertain, Caillaud has been authorised to attempt the reduction of Madura if he thinks he can do so without over-weakening Trichinopoly. He has decided to attempt it. On June 27, he marched with 90 Europeans, 400 sepoys and 2 twenty-four pounders, joining Lieutenant Rumbold with his Coffrees and sepoys before Madura on July 3. A battery was opened on the 9th and a breach made before noon. Caillaud attacked at 2 o'clock. The breach was so well defended that we lost 30 or 40 Europeans and Coffrees and 100 sepoys, and our men would not make a second attack. Caillaud has sent Rumbold hither to make a full report on the situation; and meanwhile blockades Madura. Najib-ul-lah Khan of Nellore has obtained the help of 70 or 80 Europeans and some sepoys from the French at Masulipatam, so that Abd-ul-Wahab Khan, who commands the Nawab's troops there, has been obliged to withdraw, being unable to collect money enough to pay them. Najib-ul-lah Khan is employing the French in subduing the neighbouring poligars, and it is feared that the French will get possession of the Fort. The English are attempting to sow distrust between him and

the French, and offering to condone the past if he will send them away. He has made over to them for their maintenance a part of his district (including the trading ports of Ramapatnam and Krishnapatnam). His Majesty's Ship *Triton* arrived June 23 from Bombay. Her Captain Townly agreed to cruize with the Company's ship the *Revenge* to the windward of Pondichery instead of proceeding to Bengal. The two ships sailed June 28, but unfortunately, a French ship, the *Gloire*, reached Pondichery June 30, whereas the English vessels did not arrive there till July 10. Ten days later, Townly resolved to return lest Watson should be displeased with him for remaining on the Coast, and reached Madras the 22nd. Committee how ever made such representations of the advantages of his continuing the cruize off Pondichery that he agreed to do so until advices were received from Europe, and sailed again the 25th. The *Gloire* brought few men and little money. Private letters, intercepted on the way from Pondichery to Masulipatam, mention a fleet of 17 ships which sailed from France on October 28, 1756. Cannot judge how far this is true, but are advancing the fortifications as fast as possible. A peon from Vizagapatam reports that Bussy appeared before it on June 24, that the *Marlborough* anchored there on the 25th, and that it surrendered on the 26th. The *Marlborough* sailed immediately for Bengal with Percival [the Chief] and others on board. The French now control the Coast from Ganjam to Masulipatam, and if they succeed at Nellore, they will control it as far as Pulicat. The advantage of this is too obvious to be dwelt upon. The best method of checking their progress seems to be an alliance with the Marathas according to the Company's plan of 1755. Salabat Jang with 150 French was at Aurangabad at the beginning of June, but intends to return to Golconda. Pigot lately received through the Dutch a letter from Clive, dated April 30. His designs will probably prevent the return of any men from Bengal. The quantity of arms sent is quite insufficient when so many sepoys have to be maintained. The present annual demand is about 3,000.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., AT MADRAS. LONDON, DECEMBER [29], 1756. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 60, *pp.* 21—38 (*original* 18 *pp.*).]

Cite despatches of October 10, December 3 and 19, 1755 and February 11, 1756, and Secretary's letter of February 15, 1756. Acknowledge the receipt of despatches from the Council, dated

October 4 and 27, 1755 and March 2, 1756; from the Select Committee, dated October 27, 1755, and March 1, 1756; letters from the Admiralty Court, dated July 15, 1755; from George Pigot, dated October 27, 1755 and March 2, 1756; from Colonel Lawrence, dated October 27, 1755 and February 27, 1756; from Captain Brohier, dated October 24, 1755 and March 1, 1756; and from the Mayor's Court, dated March 1, 1756. War was declared against France on May 18. On the eve of the declaration of war, advices were sent *via* Aleppo; and a few days later, the minister sent letters the same way to Watson and Adlercron. Trust that steps have been taken to protect the Company's possessions and also to annoy the enemy.

Enclose list of arrivals and departures of ships. Much inconvenience has been caused by the detention of several of the Company's homeward ships at St. Helena. The Commanders should be instructed, on arriving at any port in Great Britain or Ireland, to send off in charge of a trustworthy person the letter packets intended for the Company. The Company have empowered the Secret Committee to conduct the Company's Military and naval affairs and to give instructions regarding alliances with the Indian powers. They will correspond chiefly with the Governor and the Select Committee. Of the 19 ships taken up for the season, six ships (the *Warwick*, *Ilchester*, *Worcester*, *Grantham*, *Fox* and *Elizabeth*) are for the Coast and Bay; and four (*the Boscawen*, *Norfolk*, *Tavistock*, and *Princess Augusta*) for the Coast and China. Have also purchased a ship, the *Prince Henry* Packet, to carry news of war and to return with advices. The four China ships and the *Warwick* bound for Madeira have already sailed; the Coast and Bay ships will sail about the end of February. Appointment of supracargoes for China. Usual orders about silver, coral, etc., that have been overcarried. A material alteration has been made in the charterparty. Hitherto the terms 'saving the monsoon' and 'getting the passage about the Cape of Good Hope the same season' were taken to be synonymous. But in a recent dispute with the ship-owners of the *Scarborough*, the Court of King's Bench held that, though a ship may lose her monsoon, she may gain her passage, and that nevertheless owners would be legally entitled to four months' demurrage if the ship was not despatched before the end of January. So 'passage' has been substituted for 'monsoon' in the charterparty. Homeward ships should be despatched as early as possible, so that they may not lose their passage or risk damage to cargoes through bad weather. Have withdrawn the

present promised to commanders of late ships for speedy passage round the Cape. In the instructions to ships' commanders, a new clause has been inserted prohibiting them from using their letters of marque otherwise than in their own defence; but this involves no limitation of the Company's right to use their chartered ships for purposes of war. The *Warwick* will bring 150 pipes of Madeira for Madras and 100 for Bengal. She may either be detained as the first homeward ship from Madras, or be sent on to Bengal. Usual directions regarding the despatch of China ships. Have consigned 140 bales of woollen cloth and 20 bales of long ells to Madras; 660 and 395 to Bengal; and 1,400 bales of cloth alone to Bombay. All woollen goods are to be sold at public outcry. All the old remains may be put up at the invoice price, but new cloth not under 15 *per cent.* As Bengal and Bombay have sold off their old stock, they may be able to assist Madras. Usual instructions regarding treasure for Bengal. Stores, clothing, etc., for the use of the Squadron and King's forces. St. Helena is so much exhausted that it cannot supply more than a bullock a week. So His Majesty's ships leaving India should be warned to provide themselves with what they require either at Madagascar or the Cape. Desire a large supply of saltpetre to be sent home. 100 recruits for His Majesty's regiment go on the *Boscawen* and *Norfolk.* Owing to the great demand for men in the King's army, recruiting is extremely difficult. Cannot at present say how many recruits will be sent out on the Company's account. Heron's behaviour was very bad. He is unworthy to hold any station in the Company's service. Approve his suspension by the Council. It would have been equally proper to deprive him of his military rank. The India Mutiny Act does not impose any necessity to try an officer by court-martial before dismissing him; but this power must be used with the greatest equity and lenity. Direct that a troop of horse be formed, consisting of a Captain, a Quartermaster, a sergeant, 3 corporals, 1 drummer, 1 farrier and 30 privates. David Baron de Vasserot who sails on the *Princess Augusta* is to be Captain on £270 a year. If Lieutenants junior to him have been promoted Captain before his arrival, his commission is to be dated earlier than theirs; but should there be any officers senior to him still lieutenants, they are to rank before him as soon as promoted to the command of companies. The Captain is to make no profit on the purchase of horses, the price of which shall not exceed 400 Rs. The Council is to fix the allowance for the maintenance of horses, and the Captain

shall have the preference for maintaining them at that rate as well as the clothing of the troops on the usual terms. Frederick William Elerson is sent out volunteer, and on arrival is to be appointed Quartermaster to the troop. Leave it to the Council to fix the pay of the several officers and men of the troop. Send the necessary accoutrements on the *Princess Augusta*, as such articles can be supplied cheaper from home. The extravagant scale on which the former troop was maintained, allowed the commanders to enrich themselves at the Company's expense. It should now be fixed on reasonable terms. Are informed that 4 Pags. a month is ample to maintain a horse in garrison. Forbid the practice of maintaining the horses of officers of other corps. Captain Vasserot's pay may seem high, but has been so fixed to compensate him for the relative smallness of his profits in clothing and maintaining his troop. Have appointed Paul Philip Polier de Bottens, an able and experienced officer of approved good service, Major at Madras *vice* Colonel Heron. He should be invited to the Council whenever military affairs are considered, have a vote in all military matters, and take his seat next below the Second. He is also to have the command and clothing of a company. He shall receive £250 a year with the allowances for diet, servants and palankin usually given to the Third in Council, without any additional pay whatever. In case of his death or absence, a successor may be provisionally appointed but the Company have decided to reserve such appointments to themselves. Colonel Lawrence is a permanent member of the Select Committee. In case of his death or absence Major Polier's advice may be sought. As it is very difficult to raise recruits in England, Vasserot and Elerson have been sent to procure 200 men from Germany, and will sail on the *Fox*. Have at last procured 'Thesaurus Linguarum Orientalium by Meninski,' a book useful to those who study Oriental languages, especially Persian. Appoint as cadets Duke Butler, Stephen Villaret, Joseph Wynn, Abraham Faizan, Abraham Bonjour, Daniel Anthony Montach, and Abraham Du Pasquier. As a rule persons appointed by the Company should be preferred to those appointed by the Council. Great preparations are being made at L'Orient for an expedition to India. It is reported to consist of 6 ships of the line, 2 frigates, and 8 Company's ships equipped for war, carrying 2,500 troops. Its destination is unknown. An English squadron will soon be ready to proceed to India to relieve Watson.

Sumatra affairs.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., AT MADRAS. LONDON, DECEMBER 29, 1756. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 60, *pp.* 39--42 (*original* 4 *pp.*).]

This goes by the *Warwick* consigned to Madeira to take in wine. Enclose list of arrivals and departures of ships. Declaration of war. Usual instructions for the sending of treasure to Bengal. Have instructed Chambers, Hiccox and Chambers at Madeira to consign 150 pipes to Madras and 150 [*sic*] to Bengal, of which latter, 50 pipes may be detained at Madras, if necessary. To avoid complaints of leakage and short gauge of casks, have agreed with the Agents at Madeira to ship wine at least a year old. The casks are to hold 115 gallons, and to be certified as such by Captains before shipment.

DESPATCH FROM THE SECRET COMMITTEE TO THE SELECT COMMITTEE AT MADRAS. LONDON, DECEMBER 31, 1756. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol. I, pp.* 187—195 (*original* 9 *pp.*).]

Acknowledge the receipt of despatches, dated October 27, 1755 and March 1, 1756. Approve their arrangement under distinct heads, and direct this method to be continued. The expedition to Madura and Tinnevelly would have been fully successful, but for Major Heron's shameful behaviour, by which the cost will vastly exceed the receipts. Although Heron's flight from Madras to the French gives reason to think he deserved severer treatment than merely being cashiered by court-martial, his flight makes further comment unnecessary. Approve sending Captain Killpatrick to assist the Nawab in bringing the Arcot poligars to pay their tribute. Every attempt must be made to reduce the Company's disbursement by cutting off batta and all extraordinary expenses. The Nawab's debt is most dangerous, especially in view of the threatening war; and it bears so large a proportion to their capital as to demand the utmost efforts to reduce its volume. It is feared that, in the past, it has been thought that expenses on behalf of the Nawab would not affect the Company; but if war begins again, the Nawab cannot pay so much, nor can the Company bear so heavy a load. The arguments, in the letter from Madras dated October 27, 1756, brought by the Nawab against placing the Arcot country under English management, are weighty; but the Company's situation is such that everything must be done to lessen expenditure. Approve sending Percival to supervise the arrangements made with the poligars and to control camp expenses,

Approve Captain Caillaud's conduct in reducing the batta at Trichinopoly, and Admiral Watson's zeal and co-operation for the Company's service. Are concerned at the disputes between Adlercron and the Governor and Council. The former certainly carries his authority too far. Are representing the matter to the Ministry and hope to be able to report that such orders will be sent as will produce harmony between the King's officers and the Company's Government. Are glad that De Leyrit's not putting his threats into execution avoided the necessity of Killpatrick's attacking the French in case of their supporting the poligars in refusing to pay their tribute. Had Killpatrick succeeded in capturing Vellore, it would no doubt have been very beneficial. The Faujdar's offers to him probably would not in any case have been complied with; but it was right to send Orme to accommodate matters. His refusal to accept a sum much less than the Faujdar had offered to Killpatrick is approved. No good opportunity of reducing Murtaza Ali Khan should be lost. Although fitting encouragement should be given to officers who deserve it, yet fear that the additional batta to Killpatrick may make Adlercron increase his demands for field expenses. Approve the steps taken to recover the arrears from the Poligars and Mahfuz Khan and the precautions in letting the Tinnevelly country to a private merchant. Although the Company's orders for an expedition in concert with the Marathas from Bombay were lost with the *Dodington*, the Madras Committee correctly anticipated the scheme set out in the Despatch to the Bombay Select Committee, dated March 26, 1755. Although the provisional treaty of 1754 induced us to cancel the plan in our letter to Bombay, dated March 31, 1756, yet in the present circumstances, a breach with the French being unavoidable as soon as a war breaks out in Europe, it is most desirable to remove Salabat Jang from Golconda. Besides, the plan set out in the Madras Committee's letter to Bombay of November 30, 1755, makes the scheme appear more practicable than it was thought before. The chief difficulty lies in the character of the Marathas. Although Bourchier says that he can make a firm alliance with them whenever he pleases, yet their irritation at not sharing the plunder of Gheria may prevent such an alliance. Bourchier must determine whether the plan is now possible or not. It may be necessary to concentrate the troops near the Presidencies. Consider that Adlercron's instructions cannot warrant his conduct, but hope that the orders now sent will settle the matter. Will not comment on Captain Schaub's behaviour till the court-martial

proceedings are received. The Company's general letter by these ships informs the Governor and Council that they can, when necessary, take away an officer's commission even without court-martial. Approve of Colonel Clive's stay on the Malabar Coast to command the proposed expedition. The likelihood of hostilities renders it more than ever desirable to undertake the expedition if the Bombay Committee think it can be done. Approve the new Regulations regarding military pay, etc., especially such as tend to reform abuses like those of which Captain Spears was guilty. Hope that the field batta has been settled at the lowest possible rate. If the increase in the strength of companies from 84 to 112 men is really necessary, it may be continued, but the reason assigned, that 'the English Captains complain of not commanding so many men as the Swiss', is worthless. No innovations are to be made merely for private advantage. Although the Company have for 'some particular reasons' not named Captain Caillaud to succeed as Major in case of Polier's death or absence, yet should the Governor and Council in the case of a vacancy appoint Caillaud, believe that it will be confirmed by the Company. As Consultation books are becoming voluminous, marginal references and a general index must be made. Repeat their orders regarding the Nawab's debt and Mysore, provided they are compatible with the Bombay expedition. The contents of this letter must be reported to the Bombay Select Committee together with all further information. In consequence of a large fleet being prepared at Port L'Orient probably for Coromandel and Bengal, His Majesty intends to send a Squadron to replace Watson's. Its strength and time of sailing are not known. All possible help must be given to Fort William in its present defenceless condition.

LETTER FROM WILLIAM PITT TO COLONEL ADLERCRON. WHITEHALL, JANUARY 27, 1757. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol. I, p.* 201 (*copy* 1 *p.*).]

Recalls Adlercron and his regiment. All officers under the rank of field officer, and non-commissioned officers and privates are to be encouraged, though not compelled, to join the Company's service, as this will tend to the protection of the Company's settlements. Officers who do this will be put upon the list of reduced officers; and whenever they return to England, shall be entitled to their half pay from the date of their return.

LETTER FROM LORD BARRINGTON, SECRETARY AT WAR, TO COLONEL ADLERCRON. LONDON, JANUARY 29, 1757. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol. I, pp.* 217—219 (*copy* 2½ *pp.*).]

To the same effect as Pitt's letter to Adlercron, dated January 27, 1757, adding that the grant of half-pay to officers joining the Company's service will depend upon their producing a certificate of good behaviour from the Company. Details regarding the accounts, etc., of the Regiment.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., AT MADRAS. LONDON, FEBRUARY 1, 1757. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 60, *pp.* 44—46 (*original*, 3 *pp.*).]

The papers relating to Colonel Adlercron have been laid before the Government. They were convinced that the regiment as at present constituted would not be of any service to the Company. Orders have therefore issued for the recall of Adlercron and his regiment; but at the same time Adlercron is instructed to exert himself to encourage officers under the rank of major, and all non-commissioned officers and private men, to join the Company's service. Officers who join the Company will be allowed half-pay on their return to England, provided they produce a certificate of good conduct while serving the Company. Arrangements should be made with the Commanders of returning ships to accommodate Adlercron and his field officers. Those who join the Company's service are to retain their arms, firelocks, etc. An account of these is to be settled with Adlercron so that the amount may be paid to the Board of Ordnance here.

DESPATCH FROM THE SECRET COMMITTEE TO THE SELECT COMMITTEE AT MADRAS. LONDON, FEBRUARY 1, 1757. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol.* 1, *pp.* 197—200 (*original* 4 *pp.*).]

In consequence of the disputes with Colonel Adlercron and his field officers, some weeks ago copies of the correspondence were submitted to the Ministry. The Ministers agreed that something must be done; but as the Regiment was an old one, it could not be disbanded nor could the privates be transferred to the Company by order. Accordingly the field officers will be absolutely recalled, and the remainder permitted to enter the Company's services. Adlercron has been directed to use every effort to induce men to join the Company. The officers who do not remain in India are to

be accommodated with passages to Europe. No directions are given regarding private men and this is designed to assist their enlistment. Officers who have joined the Company's service will receive commissions of the same date as those they hold of the King. As many of the privates as possible must be persuaded to enlist for five years. Do not prescribe any terms, but as the expenses of the Coromandel war 'prey on the very vitals of the Company,' the greatest economy must be used. Officers should not be allowed to return to Europe by way of China, without considering the disadvantages of their so doing. Some measures must be found of providing passages to the officers who do not join the Company. In case any difficulty should arise about paying for them, the ship's Captain may, as a last resort, be informed that the Company will pay them if the Ministry refuse.

LETTER FROM LORD BARRINGTON, SECRETARY AT WAR, TO COLONEL ADLERCRON. LONDON, FEBRUARY 4, 1757. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol.* 1, *p.* 223 (*copy* ½ *p.*).]

If there is no accommodation in the Company's ships for such of the officers and men, as refuse to enter into the Company's service, application should be made to the Commander-in-chief of His Majesty's fleet.

[Copy forwarded by Secretary, Robert James, on February 5, 1757, *ibid.* p. 221.]

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., AT MADRAS. LONDON, MARCH 25, 1757. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 60, *pp.* 47—98 (*original* 52 *pp.*).]

Cite despatches of December 29, 1756 and February 1, 1757, Enclose list of shipping. The late arrival of ships and the present political situation have created many difficulties and prevented the Directors from writing as fully as they could wish. Trust that the Council will manage their affairs with the greatest economy.

This goes by the Coast and Bay ships. Usual directions for remitting coined money to Bengal. As only four ships were sent last year, expect that all the six ships sent this season will be returned early the same season with cargoes, in spite of the war. Any unavoidably detained should be employed to the best advantage in order to reduce their demurrage which is extremely heavy in war time. Rather than detain them for another season, would have them returned the same season with mere charterparty tonnage; but any surplus tonnage

would be welcome provided it does not prevent the despatch of other ships and obstruct the ship's defence. If Sumatra has cargo over and above what can be laded on the *Falmouth*, an extra ship may be sent thither, either from Madras or Bengal. As much saltpetre as possible is to be laden, but not so much as would hinder the despatch or obstruct the defence of the ships. To prevent illicit trade, unlicensed private goods from Europe ships should be confiscated and sold, and report thereof made to the Company. Observe that six slabs of lead were lost in the surf while being landed from the *Triton*. In such cases divers should at once be employed to recover them. Saltpetre should be laded in bags of exactly two Bengal factory maunds each to facilitate the adjustment of short deliveries in England. Complain of irregularities in surveying Madeira wine sent up by the *Winchelsea*. All goods should be housed as soon as landed and inspected at once. Approve the measures taken to despatch home the Europe shipping and the conduct followed towards the Prussian ship *Prince Henry*. If the wreck of a large ship reported near Ceylon in December last was really the *Dodington*, the necessary assistance should be afforded to the survivors. Have introduced a new clause in the instructions to commanders of ships directing them to supply themselves before leaving India with fuel and live stock for the whole voyage.

The bulk of the consignments for Madras this season has been laden on the Coast and China ships. The Coast and Bay ships only bring what could not be got ready in time for the earlier despatch. There will therefore be no need to detain the Bay ships long at Madras. No part of the treasure consigned for Bengal should be detained unless absolutely necessary. Send report on the assay of the Madras rupees and pagodas. Cannot understand why Madras has been unable to clear off its woollen goods by public outcry while the other presidencies have been able to do so. Can only account for this by reasons discreditable to the Council. Repeat their former orders. No lead is sent out this year as that sent last year sold badly. Send out 30 tons of copper in small bars like the Japan copper. It is consigned to Bengal but may be landed at Madras if it will sell to advantage there. There should always be stock of redwood in hand for the China ships, but they should not be detained to take it aboard when they happen to be late. As Sumatra sugar and arrack sell at Madras just as well as those from Batavia, the servants at Sumatra should be urged to promote their manufacture. If John

de Roos can supply good gunpowder for less than what it would have cost the Company to make, he may be continued in his appointment.

Steps should be taken to improve the quality of cloth and to reduce its price. Owing to the general stagnation of trade in Europe, especially in Germany, there is little demand for calicoes, and prices have fallen. Urge the Council to encourage new merchants to take part in the investment provided they can fulfil their engagements. Approve of the steps taken to break the combination of old merchants at Fort St. David. There should be no relaxation in sorting goods, except in very special cases. The Northern investment is larger and better than last year. Consider this due to Boddam's exertions. Perhaps the combinations of merchants might be broken by sending gumastas to the weaving towns as has been done with great success in Bengal; and perhaps the mere threat of doing this might suffice.

As regards the Negrais settlement, leave it to the Council to decide whether to demolish the buildings and withdraw altogether or whether to keep a bare possession of it. In the latter case not more than 20 or 30 people should be kept there under a man of lower rank and less pay than Captain Howes. None of the Company's ships is to be detained there longer than it is absolutely necessary for the supply of provisions, etc. The Council should keep two objects in view, one is to reduce the military expenses within reasonable bounds, the other to recover as much as possible of the Nawab's debt. Need of a good understanding with the other presidencies; Bengal in its present defenceless condition may need help.

Future conduct must make up for past irregularities in the execution of the fortifications. Except in very special cases, the grant of independent powers to the Engineer may be productive of much trouble. So Brohier as Engineer is placed under the Council's orders. His authority should be supported in order to encourage him to serve the Company cheerfully. In future, the Engineer should address his letters to the Company through the Council. Are much concerned to note slow progress made in the fortifications owing to lack of materials and workmen. Had the Company's regulations been followed, this difficulty would not have arisen. No Company's servant is to be concerned in providing brick, chunam and other materials. With proper encouragement, sufficient workmen may be procured from the Company's territories round Madras. Brohier proposes to complete the

fortifications of the White Town on a smaller scale and with less expense than was at first intended. The Council are to decide whether his scheme should or should not be adopted and also to decide regarding his scheme for works in the Black Town. If he proceeds to Bengal, the works should be carried on by his assistants. The bridge and barracks seem necessary, but the new Town Hall has been rightly postponed. Brohier's schemes are moderate and acceptable. The improvements at Fort St. David and Fort St. George should be carried out without delay. Agree to the postponement of the levy of a tax for defraying the cost of fortifications. Are gratified to find that the Council, in entirely abolishing the collections of the Chintadripet pagoda, had anticipated the Company's wishes in the matter. Desire that the papers mentioned in our despatch of December 19, 1755, may be forwarded for the information of Tullie, one of Narayanan's creditors. Cannot account for the Council's reluctance to let the farms at public outcry; no good reasons have been assigned for deviating from the former orders. Require a definite opinion about the time for which Poonamallee should be let before deciding what should be done. As the Coast trade is declining, revenues afford the only means by which military expenses can be met. The claims of Padré Severini to the Vepery church, the award of compensation for the demolition of the Portuguese church in the White Town, and the restitution of the confiscated houses in Madras, can only be taken up in quieter times.

Send no writers this season. Henry Eustace Johnson returns to his former standing. Agree that Thomas Heath may serve in the civil department instead of as an Engineer. When Edwards was appointed Assaymaster, it was understood that he would have no objection to teach his art to others, but it was not intended that this should prejudice him. He should select a person, agreeable to the Governor and Council, to be so instructed. Appreciate Vansittart's work, but he must wait for better times for further promotion. Approve of the grant of an extra allowance to Secretary Dupré, but such allowances are not in future to be made without the Company's previous consent. Await the result of the enquiry into Hopkins' conduct. Permission money for passage on the Company's ships should be received from every person able to pay, but it may be remitted in cases where it will prove a hardship. Robert Wark proceeded to Madras with the Bombay detachment and is now employed as a Surgeon at camp. If his

behaviour is good, he may succeed to a vacancy. Are dissatisfied with the management of the Export Warehouse at Fort St. David; but as the damaged bales for which Thomas Cooke was charged may have received damage while lying several months at Fort St. George, have decided to make no demands on Cooke, but have refused his request to be reinstated in the service. Achilles Preston whom Robins appointed one of his assistants left that service soon after Robins' death, and received a commission. As he has behaved well, permit him to continue in the military, but he cannot be considered to have any claim to rank as a covenanted servant. Although before the loss of Madras, it may have been usual for the President to have 6 chaise and 2 saddle horses, their recent purchase is disapproved. No more are to be kept than are absolutely needed. 'In the flourishing condition Madras was before its capture by the French, many kinds of expense might be connived at and some even allowed which cannot be admitted under its present circumstances. The Company's capital lies bleeding almost to death upon the Coast of Choromandel, and one of the most immediate remedies for its relief must be the cutting of every superfluous expense . . . The Notion of carrying many extraordinary expenses to the Nawab's account has made you run into excesses which you possibly might not otherwise have allowed of, not considering that the consequences of increasing his debt might ultimately be very fatal to the Company.' Nevertheless the Directors observe with pleasure the steps taken to regulate many branches of the Company's military and civil affairs. Send as many recruits as the *Warwick*, the *Tavistock* and the *Princess Augusta* can take, but several of them were challenged and seized as deserters from His Majesty's forces. Cannot agree to the proposal to enlist all recruits sent on the Coast and Bay ships for Madras, as the latter presidency would not easily part with them again. None of the recruits now enlisted for Bengal should be detained if it can be avoided. Direct that the rank of officers be determined according to the dates not of their brevets but of their respective commissions. Baron Vasserot was unable to raise recruits in Germany. Refrain from comment on the allowance to James Killpatrick of 15*s.* a day as Major, as it will have ceased owing to his appointment as Major at Fort William. The flight of Colonel Heron confirms his guilt. It is fortunate he had no opportunities for doing further mischief. Captain Schaub's behaviour is suspicious; await the report of the Committee of Accounts. Vasserot and Elerson proceed on the *Fox* on which are

laden the accoutrements for the troop of horse. Are assured that 4 Pags. a month is sufficient for the maintenance of a troop-horse and it must be settled at this rate with Vasserot. The rate of 6 Pags. a month allowed to the President (by Consultation, December 8, 1755), for maintaining a troop of horse, seems high and needs explanation. The *Naubat* which is a 'useless piece of pageantry' should be laid aside, and the revenues assigned for it by the Nawab might be appropriated to more useful purposes. The books at Madras and the subordinate factories have been maintained in a most irregular manner. It is very creditable of Orme to have rectified most of the errors though his adjustments are far from being perfect. Suggest a method[1] by which the books of Madras and out-factories may be annually adjusted as at Bombay. When Madras was taken, the Company's forts and buildings were valued at 2, 44, 869 Pags., Masulipatam 13,188, Divi Island 6,603, and Madapollam 23,027, or 2,87,687 Pags. in all. No valuation has been brought on the present books nor has any reason been assigned for its omission. The same is the case with the debts at Madras on April 30, 1746, to the amount of 1,44,851 Pags. Some may have been discharged before the loss of Madras, but vouchers must be produced. Direct an inventory to be taken of all buildings, fortifications, cannon, etc., which are to be brought on the books at a moderate valuation. A new heading 'military charges' is to be opened in the books, including all pay and allowances and military stores expended. Are satisfied with the progress made by the Committee of Accounts. Appreciate the trouble taken by Orme in framing account regulations. John Gray's account will be settled here. The certificate for 2,000 Arcot Rs. mentioned in Madras Despatch of November 2, 1746, may be paid to the proper claimant. Owing to disputes among his creditors, the proceeds of John Byers' estate, amounting to 7,134 Pags. were deposited in the Company's cash in 1741-42, by the assignees, Richard Benyon and Robert Douglas. Douglas being dead, Benyon will pay Byers' creditors both at Madras and Bengal on their applying to him.

Sumatra affairs.

The Mayor's Court should not correspond directly with the Company but should submit proposals through the Madras Board. Forward for transmission to them the Company's reply to their letter of March 1, 1756. Under the old charter, the English Courts

[1] *Public Despatches from England*, vol. 60, pp. 190–192.

in India insisted upon witnesses and others taking oath, although so doing might involve Indians in penance, expense and trouble. Matters came to such a pass at Bombay that many desired to leave that place unless oaths were dispensed with. The present Charter was drawn with the express intention of allowing Quakers to make a solemn affirmation and natives of India to make such oaths or affirmation as they esteem most binding on their consciences. The Mayor's Court doubts the correctness of the Company's opinion that resignation of aldermen should be made to the Council. Under the Charter of James II, aldermen were elected by the burgesses, and under the Charter of George I, by the remaining aldermen. It was therefore natural in those days that the resignation of aldermen should be made to the Mayor's Court. But as under the new Charter, the power to appoint aldermen is vested in the Governor and Council, vacancies are filled by choice of the Governor and Council, and resignations are necessarily made to the latter. Under the Charter of George I, the Mayor's Court could try civil suits between Indians. But as the Indians wished to have them determined according to their own laws and customs, it was resolved in the Charter of George II to except such cases from the jurisdiction of the Mayor's Court, unless both parties agreed to have their suit heard therein. Under the English law, bonds cannot be so assigned as to enable a third party to bring an action upon them. The Mayor's Court should follow this rule in all cases in which the assignment of bonds is made a pretext for evading this limitation of the new Charter. The Mayor's Court's interference in the case of Solomon Salomons was uncalled for and illegal. The English law of bankruptcy does not apply to India. In future insolvent persons should be left to settle with their creditors themselves. Dr. Bettesworth, Advocate of the Lords of the Admiralty, is of opinion[1] that the proceedings of the Court of Admiralty in the trial of Matthew Keys and Benjamin Jenkins were regular; but as there was no evidence of any piratical intention, their capital sentences must be remitted, but they should be kept in custody till the receipt of His Majesty's pardon. The trial of Charles Trimmer for an offence committed at Arcot was irregular, inasmuch as he could not be tried 'by a jury of the neighbourhood where the fact was done.'

Putting garrisons into country forts gives no right to take cognizance of offences committed there; but the case may be different

[1] *Public Despatches from England*, vol. 60, pp. 200–201.

with regard to new acquisitions in which the Company possesses full sovereignty. The trial of two other cases under martial law was certainly irregular as the India Mutiny Act declares that no punishment shall extend to life or limb except for crimes punishable under that Act. These do not include murder.

Stores for His Majesty's land and sea forces. Adlercron's recall. His Majesty's officers appointed to the command of the Company's troops should be allowed the privilege of clothing them, and be placed on the same footing as the other captains. This will encourage them to engage in the Company's service.

Supplement.—By circumstances which have come to light while this despatch was in preparation, believe that the Council was actuated by private advantages in opposing so strongly the sale of woollen goods and disposal of farms by public outcry. Are assured that great profits have been made by private contracts. If this is proved no one shall escape the Company's resentment. Disapprove of the custom of allowing servants of rank to leave their stations without sufficient reason. Appoint as cadets Sir William Hope (baronet), Louis De Dardagny, Lewis Braun, Pierre Anthony Veillon, Etienne D'In, John Bourne, William Phillips, and John Desplan. John Parley is entertained as a farrier in the cavalry under Captain Vasserot on £60 a year. Have declined to comply with the request of the Bengal Council to permit Company's ships to call at other ports on the Coast than Madras and St. David; but these orders may be changed should the Company have reason to think that the Madras servants obstruct the trade of the Bengal servants. Complain of the omission on the part of the Fort St. David Council to give an account of the sale of the damaged goods by the *Colchester*. Henry Butler, Chaplain for Sumatra, accompanies Roger Carter, Deputy Governor, on the *Grantham*. Forward copies of His Majesty's pardon of Matthew Keys and Benjamin Jenkins. Great preparations are being made in France and a French expedition is being fitted out at L'Orient. The English Squadron under Commodore Charles Steevens sailed on March 17. It consists of:—the *Elizabeth*, 480 men, 70 guns, Captain Richard Kempenfelt; the *Yarmouth*, 520 men, 70 guns, Captain Robert Frankland; the *Weymouth*, 420 men, 60 guns, Captain Nicholas Vincent; the *Newcastle*, 350 men, 50 guns, Captain Thomas Howard Huchenson; and the *Queenborough*, 160 men, 24 guns, Captain George Legge. On Watson's and Pocock's departure, Steevens as Commander-in-chief of His Majesty's Squadron will receive a daily allowance of 40*s*. for house rent and table charges. Call for a complete list of

officers and men of Adlercron's regiment, enlisted in the Company's service. To facilitate stowage have allowed coils of cordage of 5 inches and more to be uncoiled. Have agreed with the owners not to charge for short weight, provided each rope has two fag ends and a white thread in one strand of each rope. The detachment of artillery sent out with Adlercron is to remain in India in spite of Adlercron's recall.

DESPATCH FROM THE SECRET COMMITTEE TO THE SELECT COMMITTEE AT MADRAS. LONDON, MARCH 25, 1757. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol.* I, *pp.* 205–209 *(original* 5 *pp.).*]

Cite despatches of December 31, 1756 and February 1, 1757. Repeat the instructions to recruit as many officers and men of Adlercron's regiment as possible. The advantages of clothing their men by the officers in command of companies according to the Company's regulations, and of enlistment for 5 years instead of for life, should be considered. Although Barrington has informed Adlercron that such of his men as may be unable to get passages on Company's ships may be sent home on the returning men-of-war, it does not mean that His Majesty's intentions have altered, but as many as possible should be enlisted for the Company. Although the Ministry promised to send a company of artillery in place of that lost on the *Dodington* if one could be spared, it is feared that this will not be immediately possible. Active preparations for war are being made. It is reported that 12 Company's ships, 6 large Royal ships and 2 frigates have been fitted to carry out 4,000 troops under Lally. It is believed that many of these sailed from Port L'Orient in January. The utmost assistance that can be obtained at present from the Ministry consists of the 4 ships which sailed from Torbay on March 17, under the command of Commodore Charles Steevens. Although the Ministry sent directions by last season's Bombay ships for Watson's return from India, Steevens now carries orders that if any of Watson's Squadron are fit to remain abroad, they are to do so. Steevens will touch at the Cape and Madagascar to increase his chance of falling in with Watson's Squadron. Similar orders have been sent to St. Helena. The operations of this Squadron are to be concerted between His Majesty's Admirals and the Company's Select Committees.

Sumatra affairs.

Refer to an intercepted packet containing Bussy's letter to the Count d'Argenson, dated December 31, 1755, with translations, etc.

Appended is a—

TRANSLATION OF A LETTER FROM BUSSY AT THE FRENCH CAMP WITH SALABAT JANG TO THE COUNT D'ARGENSON. DECEMBER 31, 1755. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol.* I, *pp.* 173–178 *(copy* 6 *pp.).*]

Refers to his memorials sent in December 1754 and October 1755. French affairs in India have been exposed to great danger and ruin by the intrigues of 'our competitors,' which led to the removal of Dupleix. Bussy himself has been the principal agent of Dupleix' policy, which has been approved by His Majesty and was plainly advantageous to the French Company. All the Deccan and the French possessions on the Orissa Coast are at peace in spite of continual intrigues. Bussy is doing his utmost to avoid a rupture. De Leyrit's wisdom and steadiness will no doubt check 'our rivals' in the Carnatic, but have as yet prevailed little owing to the ignorance of our Commissary [Godeheu] of the Company's affairs in India. Is taking the field for the 6th time with the Subahdar of the Deccan, whom Bussy is preparing so that he may fall in with whatever arrangements are made in Europe. Meanwhile the Pondichery Government desire him to continue in charge of the Deccan affairs and have written to Moracin, Commandant at Masulipatam, as follows:—It would not be possible to replace Bussy. He should remain with Salabat Jang till everything is settled; if he has reason to expect that his services will be recognised by the Ministry and the Company to which his assistance in establishing the settlement arrived at in Europe will give him a claim. Will do everything possible to merit De Leyrit's favourable opinion. All that Bussy really fears is that the Company may abandon its original projects in which case it will be ruined. Last October, forwarded copies of letters received from the Emperor and the Vizier. Now forwards another letter from the Vizier who is anxious to humble the Marathas who have been driven south of the Narbadda. Bussy has reported to Pondichery the advantages and disadvantages of doing so. He cares only for solid advantages which his knowledge of the Moghal Empire enables him to distinguish better than others. Whatever may happen, an alliance with Delhi will always be beneficial provided the Company will persevere long enough to reap the full advantage.

Even in civilized countries it will not be possible to secure the full revenues in the first years of a new conquest. There are 4 principal advantages in the Moghal's proposals:—(1) the immediate repayment of a part of the Company's advances made during the war; (2) the confirmation of what the French already possessed on the Orissa Coast and elsewhere; (3) the settlement of the Arcot affair by its being placed once more under the rule of the Subahdar of the Deccan, subject to certain concessions to 'interested parties' [i.e., the English] which they could not refuse without exposing their own desire to govern; (4) the immediate payment of the cost of our army for one year, so that the revenues of the 4 Circars would be paid over to the Company, save the expense of a small detachment to be left with Salabat Jang. There would be no fear of expulsion from Masulipatam, etc., as 'our jealous rivals' do not dispute our right to them. Besides, if we were once established at Delhi, we should be able to manage not only the Subahdar of the Deccan, but also the Marathas and the Emperor's officers. The same advantages would also be enjoyed over the Subahdar of Bengal, to whose vexations, the French as well as other Europeans are subject. Bussy also hopes to persuade Morari Rao to give up a claim to 14 lakhs of rupees owed him by the Company which he has been pressing for and which De Leyrit wants Bussy to settle. The affair is complicated. Balaji Rao threatens to attack Salabat Jang if the latter permits Morari Rao to forego his French debt. Hopes that Bussy's labours are not being misrepresented in France. Dupleix and Godeheu will bear testimony to his services; and if he can obtain D'Argenson's approval he will have ample amends. Hopes that de Conflans will bring some mark of the Minister's favour. [Copies of this were addressed to the Duke of Richelieu, Controller-General of the Finances, the French India Company, Dupleix, Rouillé, Montaran, Bussy, Godeheu, Belle Isle, the Keeper of the Seals and several others.]

Appended is a translation of a letter from the Vizier to Bussy, received October 15, 1755:—

Compliments Bussy on his conduct as Protector of the Deccan, which has been related to the Padsha. 'I much wish that thou wouldst second us in settling affairs here and put everything in order.' Further compliments—[with his own hand] ' . . . I have some grand affairs to communicate to thee and I will immediately make thee acquainted with them . . .'

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., AT MADRAS. LONDON, APRIL 27, 1757. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 60, *p.* 99 (*original* 1 *p.*).]

His Majesty has replaced the Artillery Company believed to have been lost on the *Dodington* by another. It consists of 6 commissioned officers and 100 non-commissioned officers and men to be under the command of Captain Hislop. It proceeds on the Bombay ships the *Hawke* and *York*. John Payne, Laurence Sulivan, Christopher Burrow, Peter Godfrey, and Jones Raymond, constitute the newly elected Secret Committee.

DESPATCH FROM THE SECRET COMMITTEE TO THE SELECT COMMITTEE AT MADRAS. LONDON, APRIL 28, 1757. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol.* 1, *p.* 215 (*original* 1 *p.*).]

If the proposed Bombay expedition is put in execution, it is to be conducted by a Committee of three persons, consisting of the Commander-in-chief and two of the Bombay Council. A similar Committee should be appointed for the forces to be despatched from Madras. When these two forces join, the two Committees are to act together.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., AT MADRAS. LONDON, AUGUST 3, 1757. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 61, *pp.* 26–32 (*original* 7 *pp.*).]

Received on June 4 the news of the loss of Fort William, etc., in Bengal, but Holwell who reached Plymouth on July 22, brought news of its recapture by Watson and Clive. Are sending by the *Expedition* Packet directions regarding Bengal affairs. A Committee is appointed (in place of the Council there which is suspended), consisting of Robert Clive and ten others. Clive, Watts and Manningham are to preside in the Committee for a month each by turns. Clive and four others constitute the Select Committee. Expect that peace will have been made by the Nawab. But should the event prove otherwise, reinforcements must be sent. Search should be made for the cypher sent to Drake. If found, the Bengal Select Committee should keep it till a President is appointed. If lost, those at Madras and Bombay should not be used. Enclose list of arrivals and departures of ships. Twelve ships have been taken up by the Company, of which only two are for the Coast and Bay. Pigot must arrange to secure the cargoes of outward bound India men at Madras before they proceed to Bengal. Have already intimated that the French are fitting out a fleet of 12

Company's Ships, six of His Majesty's large ships and 2 frigates, with 4,000 troops under Lally. Public papers now announce the departure, on April 30, of 17 ships from L'Orient under the command of Mons. D'Aché with 3,000 troops destined to the East Indies. Are surprised to find that, though the news of the calamity in Bengal reached Madras in July, two months were spent in ill-timed debates though the expedition was ready to sail. This caused the expedition to sail very late in the season, much to the dissatisfaction of Admiral Watson. Applaud the great zeal Watson showed in the Company's service. Should he be on the Coast, he should receive the Company's thanks. Approve their conduct in making an agreement with Watson and his officers relating to prize-money at Calcutta, but strongly disapprove of the Select Committee's having invested a single person with such extraordinary powers as were conferred on Clive. 'Had we not the highest opinion of Colonel Clive's prudence and moderation, there would be no end to the disagreeable reflections we might make on so extraordinary a precedent, a precedent though he is the object of, we can but highly disapprove of, lest at any future time some favourite might start up of integrity and ability much inferior to him who might be intruded upon us, and from private views involve the Company and a whole settlement in trouble and confusion. It is on his candour and justice that we must also rely and not on the prudence of your Select Committee in the disposal of no less than 4 lakhs of rupees and a great quantity of stores, consigned to that gentleman only, how ready soever we may be to acknowledge they could not be more properly entrusted to a single person.'

THE MADRAS DESPATCHES, 1757-1758.

DESPATCH FROM THE SELECT COMMITTEE AT MADRAS TO THE SECRET COMMITTEE. FORT ST. GEORGE, OCTOBER 13, 1757. [*Military Despatches to England, Vol. I, pp.* 93–97 *(copy* 4½ *pp.).*]

Send this *via* Bombay in order to communicate the relative state of the English and French forces on the Coast. On September 6, 4 ships arrived which landed 84 recruits for the Company and 98 for the King's regiment. On October 8, a French Squadron of 10 ships reached Pondichery, 7 sailing again 3 days later. It is reported (but unconfirmed) that some of the troops were embarked; at all events believe that Pondichery is stronger now by 1,000 men. Up to the present, have enlisted 334 men of Adlercron's regiment. Estimate the respective strength of the English and French force as follows: English 1,718 Europeans; French 2,900 exclusive of Bussy's forces. This superiority has compelled the English to recall the troops from Conjeeveram to Madras, to order back Polier who was marching north to protect Tirupati from Najib-ul-lah Khan, and to order Caillaud who had possession of Madura to return to Trichinopoly, leaving Yusuf Khan, with as many sepoys as he thought necessary. The French army marched from Wandiwash to Chetpattu, September 20, and have been reinforced from Pondichery. The killedar, Nizar Muhammad Khan, who has a sergeant and 16 Englishmen with him, has promised a vigorous resistance, but the place will probably be taken unless the monsoon forces the enemy to withdraw. The Madras fortifications are now so far forward that the place is capable of a good defence. The Fort St. David works are almost finished. Devikottai has been strengthened. Trichinopoly, Arcot, Chingleput, and Karunguli are in a good condition. Neither Fort St. George nor Fort St. David is in danger from the enemy's present force and none will fall easily. It is believed that the Coast and Bay ships will bring about 300 recruits, but one of them, the *Warwick*, on arriving off Tranquebar was frightened off the Coast by the report of the French fleet. It is very doubtful if any recruits that reached Bengal will be returned here. Rumours of the revolution in Bengal. French

reinforcements must evidently be much larger. The Company reports preparations for sending 18 ships with 2,500 troops; and a letter from Pondichery written since the arrival of their Squadron says that 18 more ships are expected in January with 2,500 men under the command of Lally. Enclose a statement of sea and land forces which the French say they expect in India. Hope that it is exaggerated, but it plainly suggests the danger of English interests if anything like such an effort should be made by the enemy.[1] The *Revenge* was at once despatched to Bengal to inform Watson; and the *Triton* proceeded here. As the French Squadron seemed too strong for either Watson's or Steevens' Squadrons alone, it was judged that Pulicat would be the most favourable spot for their junction. Have taken steps to inform the commanders accordingly. Enclose a report by Call on the Madras fortifications and the measures taken to remove buildings represented as being too near the walls. A Portuguese ship from Bengal had brought news to Pulicat of Watson's death and Mir Jafar's establishment as Nawab.

DESPATCH FROM THE SELECT COMMITTEE AT MADRAS TO THE SECRET COMMITTEE. FORT ST. GEORGE, OCTOBER 20, 1757. [*Military Despatches to England, Vol. I, pp.* 97-99 *(copy* 2½ *pp.).*]

This is also sent by Bombay. News of the revolution in Bengal. Regret the loss of so great a public-spirited commander as Watson. Admiral Pocock who has succeeded him, has ordered Steevens to join him at Balasore, and intends to proceed to Madras as soon as the season permits. The latest news from Steevens is that he was at St. Augustine's in the middle of August, intending to proceed to Bombay. He has been desired to touch at Madras on his way northward if this is consistent with his orders. There is no hope of the return of the troops from Bengal. Since the 13th, 50 more of Adlercron's men have enlisted. Lieutenant Carnac is the only officer who has joined. He has been given a Captain's commission. The rest are preparing to embark for Europe both direct and *via* Bombay. The French took Chetpattu on October 14 with considerable loss. The *Warwick* has reached Bengal.

[1] I suppose this to be the paper received from Trembley, Dutch Resident at Cuddalore, forwarded in the letter from Wynch, dated September 23, in Military Consultations of September 26.

DESPATCH FROM THE SELECT COMMITTEE AT MADRAS TO THE SECRET COMMITTEE. FORT ST. GEORGE, NOVEMBER 10, 1757. [*Military Despatches to England, Vol. I, pp.* 100–114 *(copy* 15 *pp.).*]

Cite despatches of June 6, and July 30, despatched August 3. Acknowledge the receipt of despatches, dated December 31, 1756, and February 1, 1757, on September 6. Cite despatches sent by Bombay of October 13 and 20.

Considering the vast superiority of the French who are believed to have had 1,800 Europeans before Chetpattu, the English troops have been kept in garrison as not more than 900 could be sent into the field. The French lost many before Chetpattu, though not perhaps all the 500 Indians and Europeans reported killed and wounded. The place was defended to the last. The Killedar continued to resist in the streets, even after the French had got into the fort, but at last he was shot. His family then destroyed themselves, and great slaughter was made in the garrison. Some of our 15 men may have been carried prisoners to Pondichery. The French then occupied Tiruvannamalai which was abandoned on their approach. The districts thus occupied are reckoned to be worth 5 lakhs of rupees a year. Their army is now returning to Pondichery for the monsoon. Will make all preparations to resist their further attacks whichever way they turn. Hope to receive recruits in good time. No reinforcements can be expected from Bengal. Forward all advices from Bengal copied together in a book. Admit that Clive's employment of Madras troops in Bengal has been of greater service than returning them to the Coast. But as the Madras Committee was ignorant of Clive's plans, it had good reason to demand the return of the troops after the capture of Chandernagore.

The Nawab's debt, April 30, 1756, stood at 13,71,906 Pags.; by April 30 last, it had fallen to 11,91,324 Pags. This decrease in the debt was rendered possible by his paying his assignment in full, the full receipt of the rents of Tirupati and the mortgaged countries of Covelong, Manimangalam, Chingleput and the Seven Maganams, the remittance of 1,30,000 rupees from Tinnevelly, and the absence of troops from the field. The current year must be much worse. The Nellore revenues have been lost; the second half of the Nawab's assignment has been reduced by the payment of 2½ lakhs to the Marathas. Instead of 8 lakhs, the Company can receive only 4,39,250 rupees and perhaps the Nawab may not be

able to pay the whole of this. The first kist of the Tirupati rent has been paid, but the December and June kists may be affected by the enemy's superiority. Covelong has been let for 8,000 Pags. *per annum*, Manimangalam for 13,000, and the Seven Maganams for 19,000, each on a three years' lease. It is hoped that these revenues will be secured, the countries being near Madras. Caillaud had got possession of Madura by agreeing to pay Mahfuz Khan's people there 1,70,000 rupees. The arrival of the French fleet then compelled Caillaud to return to Trichinopoly, but he left a garrison of sepoys at Madura under Yusuf Khan. Tinnevelly was thus abandoned to Mahfuz Khan; and the Madura country does not produce enough to pay for the maintenance of the fort. Besides this, there is 1,70,000 rupees to be paid for the surrender of Madura, 43,000 rupees due as arrears to the sepoys, and 1,80,000 rupees advanced on the security of the countries which were lost before the debt was repaid. The Tinnevelly renter who returned to Trichinopoly with Caillaud has been summoned to Madras to settle accounts and to assist in settling our future conduct. Yusuf Khan has been directed to endeavour to collect as much revenue as will pay off the debt and maintain his troops. He hopes to be able to do this.

The Nawab arrived at Madras August 8, with Amrita Rao.[1] Some days were spent in urging on the latter the great expense of preserving the country from the French, but it was found that the Nawab had already promised to pay 2½ lakhs of rupees and the Marathas seemed determined to lay waste the countries of the Nawab and the English if it was not paid. As they have 8,000 horse within 8 miles of Arcot and could have destroyed a much larger revenue, the Nawab was allowed to deduct the sum out of the second half of the assignment. This illustrates the great inconvenience of the distinction between the Company's and Nawab's powers. The French manage everything themselves. It is believed that the Maratha Vakil at Pondichery got nothing on account of the chauth. This has been urged to Balaji Rao as a reason for his taking part against the French. Najib-ul-lah keeps possession of Nellore and is in treaty with the French. The Nawab has been persuaded to remain at Madras as the place of the greatest security. The joint expedition into the Deccan, however advantageous, cannot at present be undertaken as the troops both here and at Bombay are so much diminished.

[1] The Maratha Vakil,

Salabat Jang is reported to be in difficulties at Aurangabad. Bussy has moved to Masulipatam and is preparing to march to his assistance. He left only an officer and 200 sepoys at Vizagapatam; and Smith (lately arrived from Bimlipatam) says that the fortifications have been demolished. The power of the Marathas continues to increase. Since the conquest of Sirah, they have demanded chauth from the Nawab of Cuddapah; and when he resisted them, they defeated and slew him, and occupied his country. The King of Tanjore continues friendly. His alliance is of consequence to the safety of Trichinopoly. The French are said to be encouraging a pretender to that kingdom. The progress of Orme's negotiations with Venkata Rao are recorded in the Private Committee's Proceedings of September 16.[1]

Adlercron's recall might have proved the ruin of the Company's settlements. No captain of the regiment has the least thought of staying; and only one subaltern has engaged in our service. The latter [Carnac] was one of those we wished to have. The whole corps, however, with the possible exception of Adlercron, did their utmost to engage men to stay. Adlercron repeatedly refused to hand over the men as they enlisted, and suddenly and severely punished two who have done so. As an inducement to engage, it was necessary to offer the men the same terms offered to those under Boscawen—a bounty of 10 Pags. for three years' service. The regiment here was 500 strong, of whom 350 have enlisted. Adlercron was asked to transfer a part of the remainder to the artillery detachment under Captain Hislop, but he did no more than permit them to enter the service. This will effect little. Eight officers and 30 men have proceeded to Bombay. Adlercron declares that he will be the last man to embark, although he has been informed of the inconvenience of his stay to the public service. He ordered the officer commanding the detachment in Bengal to permit those who chose to enter the Company's service. The Bengal Select Committee have been desired to embark those who will not join, on His Majesty's ships, as this may induce more to stay, and those who go will still be useful. Those embarking from Madras will be received as charterparty passengers.

The French ship cruising in the Straits of Sunda was the *Duc d' Orléans* which reached Pondichery with the rest of their squadron

[1] The minutes of these Private Committees are missing from July 4, 1756. See above, p. 100 n.

on September 8. A ship reached Pondichery October 16 and is said to have brought 150 men. William Bodle has been appointed Resident at Negapatam and Henry Brooke at Pulicat, to give intelligence to English ships putting in there. They are allowed 20 Pags. a month and batta for their servants as in the last war.

Supplement.—A commission as major has been delivered to Captain Polier. His military capacity is good, but English troops always dislike serving under the command of a foreigner [Orme records his dissent from this opinion]. Recommend the addition of one or two field officers to the troops on the Coast. One should always be at Madras; another at Fort St. David; while two or more should always accompany the troops in the field. Caillaud is the fittest of the Company's officers to command their troops in case of an accident to Polier. He will certainly be recommended for appointment. In recommending the strengthening of the English companies, the committee intended not to favour individuals but to remove a general complaint among the whole corps of officers, as service is always best carried on when officers and soldiers have a zeal resulting from a sense of equal treatment. Forward the statements of 4 recruits who on their arrival complained of ill usage and refused to do their duty. It would be well to send out to India the contract papers signed by recruits. Refer to Engineer Call's report on the fortifications, dated October 6. He is extremely diligent and very capable.

Postscript dated November 14.—Twenty of Adlercron's men have joined the train. Fifty more have embarked on the *Norfolk* and *Princess Augusta*, with all the officers except Lieutenant-Colonel Forde, and a subaltern in charge of the 60 men that remained. Adlercron has been induced to proceed to England only with the greatest difficulty. He sailed on the *Princess Augusta*.

Appended are lists of the packets (pp. 115—120).

DESPATCH FROM GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., COUNCIL AT MADRAS TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, NOVEMBER 15, 1757. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 22, *pp.* 177–192 (*copy* 16 *pp.*).]

Cite despatches of June 6 and July 30. Acknowledge the receipt of despatches dated December 29, 1756, January 3 and February 1, 1757.

The China ships *Boscawen, Norfolk, Tavistock, Princess Augusta* arrived here September 6, too late to proceed to China. When they were ready to sail, on September 9, the *Triton* brought news of the

arrival at Pondichery on September 8 of a French Squadron of 10 vessels. She narrowly escaped the French and the *Revenge* sailed to Bengal. All the treasure on the China ships was at once landed and the ships themselves brought in as close to the Fort as possible. In June last, the *Marlborough* sailed for Bengal. As renewed troubles have been reported in Bengal, it was expected that the *Marlborough* would have been returned to Madras to be laded home. Nothing was done, in the expectation of her arrival, until October 10, when it was resolved to lade 2 China ships, the *Norfolk* and *Princess Augusta*, with bales and send them to Sumatra to fill up with pepper for England. Another China ship has been ordered with treasure to Bengal; and the fourth, proving on survey to be unfit for the Company's service, has proceeded to Bombay for repairs. Two of the Coast and Bay ships will be sent to China in place of the *Norfolk* and *Princess Augusta*. Six thousand bags of saltpetre were to have been sent from Bengal to Madras in September, but were detained owing to the news of the French Squadron, so that none can be sent by the present ships. The *Marlborough* has been despatched home direct from Bengal. The fortunate change of affairs in Bengal makes the Council there hope to provide 3 cargoes by the end of February; Madras will have 2,000 baſes; and Sumatra not less than 200 tons of surplus pepper. Hope therefore that the expected shipping will all be despatched home the season of their arrival, except the 2 ships sent to China. In September, the *Warwick* heard at Tranquebar that the French Squadron was besieging Madras, and proceeded to Bengal. Movements of the China ships. The *Duke* which proved too leaky to proceed to the West Coast has sailed to Bengal to be caulked and sheathed. The *Neptune* sloop and 3 long boats sailed for Sumatra in August. Have taken over at invoice valuation the small arms and gunpowder belonging to the *Prince Henry* Packet.

Worm-eaten bales of woollen cloth are to be sold at outcry.

On the loss of the Northern settlements, the 30,000 Madras Pags. purchased for investment there were disposed of.

Offer their congratulations to the Company on the fortunate and surprising revolution in the Government of Bengal.

The *Northumberland* snow, Captain John Mackmath, which proceeded last year on a voyage to the East was seized by the Siamese Governor of Junk-Ceylon, who treacherously massacred its crew, the Captain however escaping. He now claims satisfaction for his losses. At that time, 3 Siamese ships were at Madras.

But as it does not appear that the Siamese King had in any way countenanced the outrage, the Council have for the present contented themselves with writing to demand compensation, failing which reprisals will be made.

Covelong has been relet for 3 years at 8,000 Pags. a year (the same as last year); Manimangalam for 13,000 Pags.; and the Seven Maganams for 19,000 Pags.

On the loss of the Northern settlements, the servants there became prisoners of war on parole. Some have arrived here; others including Percival and Andrews have gone to Bengal. Enclose Percival's narrative of the surrender of Vizagapatam. John Calland when in charge of Ingeram purchased cloth on the Company's account, though without orders to do so, and now claims 3,411 Pags. for cloth seized by the French at Ingeram for which he is personally answerable to the merchants. As the custom has always prevailed in the Northern settlements to forward the investment whenever opportunity offered without waiting for particular orders, Calland's claim is recommended for the Company's favourable consideration. Powney became Land Customer on Westcott's departure. Charles Turner at Fort St. David has been allowed to come to Madras for his health. Andrew Newton succeeded him. For repeated neglect of duty, Charles Simpson was ordered to Fort St. David; but as he neglected to proceed thither for a whole year, his name was struck off the last Company's servants' salary account. John Whitehill has resigned the Company's service to try his fortune in the Country trade and seeks permission to remain in India. Andrew Munro died a few days ago; he has been succeeded by Robert Turing; and Turing by James Wilson. As assistant engineer Call was given an allowance of 30 Pags. a month. On Brohier's departure to Bengal, Call succeeded him and has been given the same allowance as Brohier drew, viz., 60 Pags. a month, as his conduct has been in every respect entirely to our satisfaction. Major Polier's commission has been delivered to him. Await the arrival of Baron de Vasserot to raise the troop of horse. As the Company have given permission to indent for the necessary accoutrements, request a similar indulgence for the Captains of Infantry who send home annually for a certain number of hats, but find it difficult to remit the money. The following have died on the Coast:—Lieutenants William Rumbold and John Reith, and Cadet Daniel Anthony Montach. According to an August return from Bengal, Captain William Lin had died there. Lieutenant Alexander Peyer Imhoff

and Ensign John Donavan have resigned. Lieutenant Conrad Zeigler and Ensign Richard Geers have been broken by Court-martial. Lieutenants John Hume (of the Bengal establishment) and John Carnac (of Colonel Adlercron's regiment) and Edward Frith (in Sumatra) have been promoted Captains. Ensigns John Clarke, Simon Hart, John Henry Meyers, Joseph Darke, David Blake, Robert Bannatyne and Henry Spellman have been promoted Lieutenants. Cadets William Flint, Robert Fletcher, John Little, Archibald Blair, Joseph Mead Bates, James Minns, Duke Butler (not yet arrived), Stephen Villaret, Joseph Wynn, Abraham Faizan, Abraham Bonjour and Abraham Du Pasquier (not yet arrived) are promoted Ensigns; Ensign Charles Todd appointed Adjutant with rank as Lieutenant; Ensign James Minns, Adjutant, Joseph Taylor, Quartermaster and Lieutenant fireworker Jonathan Brooke, 2nd Lieutenant of the 1st Company and Adjutant of Artillery. In Bengal, Lieutenants Rodolph Wagner, Christian Fisher, John Fraser, and Robert Campbell have been promoted Captains. Second Lieutenant Charles Ernest Joecher and Ensign Francis Flaction, Randfurlie Knox and Alexander Tuite promoted Lieutenants. In the Artillery, Captain Lieutenant Robert Barker appointed Captain, and Lieutenant Francis Paschoud, Captain-Lieutenant.

Sumatra affairs.

None of the officers of Adlercron's regiment has accepted a commission in the Company's service except Lieutenant John Carnac who has been given a Captain's Commission; but most of the privates have enlisted.

Supplement.—Several of Colonel Adlercron's officers are going by Bombay. Adlercron with certain others is sailing on the *Norfolk* and *Princess Augusta*. Have supplied the Captains of these ships with salt provisions for their use. Will send an account of the arms, firelocks, etc., of the men of Adlercron's regiment who join the Company's service. Thomas Thompson, supracargo of the *Princess Augusta* has protested against the Company for all losses he may sustain by her being returned to England instead of proceeding to China. Have laded on these ships to complete their kintlage, redwood at half freight, and condemned cannon and musket barrels freight free. Advanced 1,500 Pags. to Captain Reynolds of the *Prince Henry* Packet. Have laden on the *Norfolk* 1,000 bales and 48 tons of redwood and her invoice amounts to 88,623 Pags. The *Princess Augusta's* cargo consists of 1,000 bales and 49 tons of redwood and her invoice amounts to 89,757 Pags.

The *Prince Henry* Packet takes 40 tons of redwood worth 729 Pags. Diamonds, etc., registered on these 3 ships amount to 33,172, 35,271, and 21,692 Pags. respectively. Private trade on the *Norfolk* amounts to 713 Pags. The cash balance in the Treasury and cash chest amount to 7,00,000 Arcot Rs. and 63,000 Pags.

Postscript.—The bills drawn on the Company amount to 52,834 Pags.

Appended are—(1) registers of diamonds etc. (pp. 194-201); (2) manifest of private trade (pp. 202-203); (3) list of passengers (p. 203—Richard Starke, John Starke, Miss Jean de La Mettrie by the *Norfolk*; Ephraim Isaac, Lieutenant Arthur Nelson, Lieutenant Alexander Peyer Imhoff, Ensign Richard Geers and Anthony Wagner by the *Princess Augusta*; and Samuel Moses, John White, Richard Quin, William Hardin and Stephen Greenleaf); (4) list of packets etc. (pp. 203-210); and (5) sailing orders to Captain Pinsen Bonham of the *Norfolk*; and to Captain Thomas Baddison of the *Princess Augusta* (pp. 211-213).

DESPATCH FROM THE SELECT COMMITTEE AT MADRAS TO THE SECRET COMMITTEE. FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 17, 1758. [*Military Despatches to England, Vol.* 2, *pp.* 1—3 (*copy* 3 *pp.*).]

Cite despatch of November 10, 1757. On November 29, heard from Bombay that the Coast and Bay ships had been ordered to proceed direct to Bengal. On January 12, received news of two having been spoken with off the Nicobars. Hope that the next vessel from Bengal may mention their safe arrival. Letter from the Select Committee of Bengal, dated November 15, demands four or five hundred men with stores, as a severe sickness has swept off many of their men, and as the Nawabs of Oudh and Purnea are said to be preparing to attack Bengal and Patna. The greatest part and best of our men have already been sent thither under Killpatrick and Clive. The French are so superior that any further detachment would expose the whole Coast to the greatest danger; and if the troops said to be coming under Lally arrive, all the inland garrisons must be withdrawn. In these circumstances, no man can be sent, especially as Bengal will receive all the recruits of the Coast and Bay ships, and as the latest news reports a subsidence of the danger there. However we are sending some gunpowder though we are not very well supplied with it. Pocock informs Pigot that he hopes to be at Madras by the end of this month, and Steevens is expected here about the same time. It is

hoped that the united fleet will be able to meet the enemy. In spite of fine weather and the French superiority of force, they have not yet taken the field; probably they are awaiting larger reinforcements to undertake some great enterprise. Though we have made all possible preparations for the defence, there is a necessity for large and speedy succour. Will write again by the *Warwick* on her arrival from Bengal.

DESPATCH FROM GEORGE PIGOT, ETC. COUNCIL AT MADRAS TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, MARCH 13, 1758. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 22, *pp.* 214—239 (*copy* 26 *pp.*).]

Cite despatch of November 15, 1757. Acknowledge the receipt of despatches dated March 25 and April 27, 1757, which were overcarried to Bengal.

The *Warwick* arrived from Bengal February 21, partly laded. The *Grantham, Elizabeth, Ilchester, Worcester* and *Fox* reached Bengal the beginning of February. The *Hawke, Latham, Lord Anson* and *York* reached Bombay in December last. The Bombay ships captured a French vessel bound from Pondichery to the Islands. The *Marlborough* sloop consigned to Sumatra was driven north as far as Ganjam where it fell into the hands of a French party who induced the Captain to land under a promise of security, but sent off armed boats by night to secure the sloop. The *Hunter* sloop, built at Pegu for the Negrais service, was driven here on her way from Bengal to the Negrais in December, but will be shortly despatched. Was able to recover only 14 out of the 20 slabs of lead, lost coming ashore from the *Ilchester*. No mention was made of attempts to recover it as we looked upon that as a matter of course. The Export Warehousekeeper has been ordered to see that every bag of saltpetre laded for England contains 2 Bengal maunds. Special care is taken to inspect the stowage of Madèira wine. The commanders are held answerable whenever the leakage or damage appears due to bad stowage. All other goods are examined as soon as possible on being landed and ships' captains required to pay for all damages and deficiencies. Are gratified to find the Council's measures regarding shipping have the Company's approval. 'We wish it were as much in our power to convince you of our zeal on all other occasions.' A lack of boats is frequently felt at Madras, but is also general all along the Coast. Are sure that in no case have ships from Bengal been treated with injustice. Council's only motive for wishing the Bengal ships to

import here is to increase the Company's customs and to prevent supplies going to the French or the Dutch in times of scarcity.

Only 60 out of the 150 pipes of Madeira wine consigned to Madras have been forwarded by Bengal. 'Your treasury at Calcutta is so fully supplied that we believe the gentlemen will send us the greatest part of what the Coast and Bay ships have brought. They have already sent us by His Majesty's Squadron 60 chests of silver and 2 chests of gold. What we think very extraordinary is that, notwithstanding they are sending us up such sums of money, they have drawn on us for near a lack of rupees.' Vindicate their action with reference to the sale of woollen goods. Those who know the nature of the Coast trade will support us. Deny having directly or indirectly used methods prejudicial to the sale of the Company's woollen goods. As to the free sale of woollen goods in other presidencies, conditions differ. Here the country has been for five years wasted with war, while trade elsewhere has continued uninterrupted. Again, owing to a difference in exchange between rupees into sterling and pagodas into sterling when Arcot Rs. are 377 *per* 100 Pags. woollen goods are invoiced to Bengal 14½ and to Bombay 11½ *per cent.* cheaper than to Madras which has enabled the purchasers at Bengal to import cloth here and undersell the buyers at Madras. Presume that the Company have been misled by persons unacquainted with the merchants of this Coast who inherit as great a share of pride and ambition as Europeans. 'In this part of the world, at least in your settlements none esteemed more so than your merchants and your farmers, men of family and substance coveted these posts of honour more for the credit and reputation than through any lucrative views.' Have on hand 366 bales of woollen goods including the 150 received this year. Of these 124 are long ells imported at the particular request of the merchants but which are now in no demand. Since November 1756, the sales have been as follows:—60 bales on May 28, 1757, 320 on October 24 and 48 on December 23 while 60 have been disposed of either as damaged cloth or by retail. Will be short of lead for military stores unless a supply is received by the next shipping. Cannot spare any redwood for the China market as all the large timbers have been used as palisades round the covered way. Enquire what sort of redwood is most in demand in England. Old wood is generally hollow but of a deep red colour and cheap; the young wood is more solid but paler and dearer. As it is believed that redwood is only used in England for dyeing purposes, suppose the colour to be the principal object.

Are unable to spare any Coffree slaves for St. Helena. At our request, Bombay have bought 50 to be sent thither. In order to hasten the completion of the works, Brohier was obliged to increase the wages of his coolies. This caused an increase in the wages paid in other employs. An increase of 1¼ Pagoda *per* candy has been allowed to the gunpowder contractor, so that gunpowder now costs 29¼ Pags. a candy. As 400 tons of saltpetre are expected from Bengal, hope to be able to despatch the September ship in good time.

The investment remains in the hands of the old merchants as the Council has been unable to raise such a competition as the Company suggest. There is a great difference between the Madras merchants and the dadni merchants of Bengal. The latter receive advances in ready money like ours, but, instead of sending it to the aurangs, they employ it in buying European goods which are resold at a considerable profit to the manufacturers who pay for them in goods for the Company's investment. Thus the cost of the latter includes all the profit the merchants make on the Europe goods. The Coromandel merchants who distribute the Company's advance direct to the manufacturers occupy in fact the same position as the gumastas now employed in Bengal.

Lieutenant Newton, now the Commanding Officer at the Negrais, reports that the King of Ava has at last overthrown the King of Pegu and is firmly seated in the government. By timely presents have obtained a perpetual grant of the Negrais Island and a site at Persaim and concluded a commercial treaty with him. The Burmese are a trading nation and are well-disposed to the English, but it is doubtful whether for many years to come the profit of such settlements will meet the cost. The principal point is whether woollen goods would find as good a market there as formerly. This can only be decided by repeated trials. Are too busy at present to come to a deliberate decision regarding this settlement. It is undoubtedly most important that the several presidencies should support one another. Trust that Clive's expedition to Bengal will show that Council have followed this principle. The Dutch factory-house at Devanampattanam, which stood so near Fort St. David as to obstruct its defence, was demolished on receipt of news of the declaration of war; and the Dutch have been given in exchange a house in Cuddalore belonging to one of the Danish Protestant missionaries of whom it was bought for 2,200 Pags. The materials of the Dutch factory have

been employed on the St. David's works.[1] In October last bills were received from Bengal for 35,000 Arcot rupees drawn on Pondichery by the Chandernagore Council in discharge of money advanced them since the capture of the latter. On receipt of this, the French demanded to set off against this 8,414 Rs. for assistance given to the English after the loss of Calcutta. This has been paid.

'As we are utter strangers to the particular facts on which your honours ground your opinion that Mr. Brohier has not been kindly used, it is impossible we should refute them.' Since his transfer to Bengal, Call has been carrying on the works with assiduity. The present method of providing bricks and chunam under the direction of the Committee of Works is the most satisfactory both in price and quantity. When Brohier departed, he took with him all his projects for Madras. No opinion can be offered on the project he laid before the Company. Moreover the works of the White Town are too far advanced to admit of any great alteration without much additional expense. The Fort St. David works are under the direction of Captain Hume. Narayanan's[2] debt is not recoverable as he died insolvent. The Company's remarks on the letting of farms seem due to a misapprehension of the Council's measures. They objected not to letting them at outcry but to letting them for so short a term as one year. For example, 3,000 Pags. a year more was offered for a 5 years' lease of Devikottai than was offered for a single year's lease. At Devikottai, a great part of the bounds now uncultivated may be sown with paddy if a few channels are cut, but no one will go to this expense when he is liable to have his rent raised every year. 'The decline in the trade of this Coast is but too obvious. The French have felt it as well [as] we and seek for a compensation by the acquisition of territories; no endeavours shall be wanting in our part to improve and defend to the utmost what you now enjoy.' Have postponed restoring the confiscated houses as they are required to accommodate naval and military officers. Percival, Andrews and other servants in the Northern settlements have arrived and will be exchanged for some of the

[1] The Dutch factory, which had been established before Fort St. David was acquired by the English, was a strong masonry building about 700 yards north of the Fort. The house purchased belonged to Kiernander and had previously been used as Adlercron's residence. *Public Consultations*, September 13, 1754, and December 6, 1757.

[2] Madras Despatch dated November 21, 1756, para. 62.

Chandernagore prisoners. Hugh Norris, Robert Sloper and James Bourchier have been allowed to come to Madras for their health, the first two from Fort St. David and the third from Devikottai. At St. David, there are at present only 2 of Council, Wynch and Fairfield; the other 3 are either sick or prisoners. Thomas Heath has been assigned his rank in the service according to seniority. Have provisionally appointed John Pybus Assay-master, in place of Edwards suspended for disobedience of orders. Robert Wark (nominated surgeon) has died in Bengal. Wynch's bond to be answerable for the damaged cloth charged against Cooke has been returned to him. In spite of the resolution of Council to buy 6 chaise and 7 saddle horses, none have actually been bought. The Council has done its best to reduce expenses and knows of nothing further that can be cut down. Bengal have not returned a single soldier and have also detained the recruits by the Coast and Bay ships. So the force at present here is barely enough for garrison service. When the threatened reinforcements reach the French, they will probably attack some of the Company's principal settlements. Not a single man was ever detained unnecessarily from Madras or at a time when the least danger was anticipated there. The troop of horse will be put under Baron de Vasserot on his arrival from Bengal. 'The greater part of the Nabob's charges [are lessened]. The elephant and horses [have] been saved for about a twelve month. Will take this first opportunity to speak to the Nabob.' All the President's peons and attendants have been employed in supervising the artisans and labourers on works.

Expect shortly to adjust the accounts of the Northern settlements. Before Starke's departure for England, he was required to make good a balance of 800 Pags. due under a contract for redwood in 1750. Starke insisted that the wood had been delivered according to contract. But on examination it was found to consist of large old hollow trees but of a deep good colour. To settle the dispute, Starke had leave to have the wood cut into proper pieces and deliver the sound ones only. Will pay Salomons' certificate for 2,000 Rs. with simple interest according to the Company's orders. The general books of 1745–46 show a sum of 7,134 Pags. to the credit of Captain John Byers' creditors. Believe that no part of the money has been paid. It is not known what deeds were executed between Captain Byers and his creditors, but later on he had many dealings; and since his death in 1750, a sum of 1,690 Pags. being the amount of his assets was delivered in 1753

to William Percival as principal creditor under letters of administration.

Sumatra affairs.

As the Mayor's Court objected to receiving copy of the Company's orders of March 25, 1757, certified by the Secretary, the original was produced in Court. Matthew Keys and Benjamin Jenkins who have been pardoned by His Majesty have enlisted on the Squadron. In relation to the trial of Charles Trimmer (Company's despatch, dated March 25, 1757), as the Company have not informed the Council whether the former sentence must be reversed or he may be discharged without further proceedings, the man is still kept in confinement 'which as his crime is so heinous is not too hard a punishment.' There is some misapprehension regarding the case mentioned in the Madras despatch of March 2, 1756. Under the Articles of War, the Commanding Officer should hand over to the Civil Magistrate persons accused of crimes punishable by the known laws of the land. Request legal opinion as to the procedure in cases where there is no Civil Magistrate as at Trichinopoly, and in time of peace when murder is not punishable by martial law. Have appointed Samuel Ardley Mayor and Edward Edwards Sheriff for the ensuing year. George Pyne has been appointed Coroner on an allowance of 5 Pags. a month. Such an officer is very necessary in the settlement and we shall continue to appoint him according to the former Madras custom, but we are not clear whether we have authority to do so. John Smith, Andrew Ross and George Mackay have resigned their posts as aldermen, and Hugh Norris has been appointed to one of these vacancies.

The English Squadron under Vice-Admiral Pocock arrived here from Bengal on February 23; and that under Commodore Steevens which left Anjengo on February 9 is daily expected. Enclose a list of men of Colonel Adlercron's regiment who have engaged in the Company's service.

Supplement.—Have completed the *Warwick's* tonnage with 836 bales and saltpetre, invoiced at 83,337 Pags. Have 1,000 bales here and at St. David, and expect 500 more by September which will fill the September ship. Are informed by private letters that Bengal have drawn bills on the Company for above 25 lakhs of rupees and also that they have sent large sums of money to Bombay to be paid into the Company's cash there for bills on England. Great sums have been tendered here for that purpose, but apprehending that such large drafts might put the Company

to some difficulty, have not drawn now on them except in return for coral, etc. Enclose a list of 27 men of His Majesty's 39th returning to Europe on this ship. Diamonds, etc., registered by this ship amount to 76,283 Pags. The cash balance amounts to 40,000 Arcot Rs. 6,000 Pags., 17,336 pounds of silver, and 499 pounds of gold, besides the treasure for China.

Postscript.—Have drawn bills on the Company for 893 Pags.

Appended are—(1) register of diamonds, etc. (pp. 240–241); (2) manifest of presents (p. 242); (3) list of officers and men of His Majesty's 39th taking passage on this ship. It includes Captains Eyre Coote and Lieutenant Matthew Pierson (p. 242); (4) lists of packets (pp. 243—246); and (5) sailing orders to Captain Nicholas Webb of the *Warwick* (pp. 247–248).

DESPATCH FROM THE SELECT COMMITTEE AT MADRAS TO THE SECRET COMMITTEE. FORT ST. GEORGE, MARCH 13, 1758. [*Military Despatches to England, Vol. 2, pp. 4—9 (copy 6 pp)*]

Cite despatch of January 17 forwarded *via* Bombay. Pocock arrived February 23 with His Majesty's ships *Tyger*, *Cumberland*, *Salisbury*, *Bridgewater*, and *Triton*. He brought the Secret Committee's letters of March 25 and April 28, 1757. Since November 10, 15 more of Adlercron's men have enlisted; 27 men and 2 officers go home by this ship [*Warwick*]; 4 have gone to Bengal with Colonel Forde; and 19 under the command of 2 ensigns have been taken by Pocock on the *Tyger*. On Killpatrick's death, in August, the Bengal gentlemen wrote to Lieutenant Colonel Forde requesting him to proceed to Bengal to take command when Clive returned to the Coast. Forde laid the letters before us, January 16; and we requested him to comply. His doing so and his whole conduct on the Coast prove him a proper man for that trust. The Secret Committee is requested to use its interest with the Ministry that he may not suffer by having done this. News from Bengal. Steevens wrote to Pigot on February 8 that he was getting under sail at Anjengo and bringing the artillery company sent thither on Company's ships. Hope to report his arrival and the resolutions taken for the junction of the two squadrons, before concluding this letter. Since the Despatch of November 10, Abd-ul-Hamid Khan[1] with some relatives and troops of the late Nawab of Cuddapah, threw themselves into the fort of Sidhout, which the

[1] Orme calls him Abd-ul-Nabi Khan.

Marathas besieged until lately, when terms were made for the payment of a sum of money and the surrender of half the country to the Marathas. At the same time, Amrita Rao, the Vakil, with other Maratha troops, attacked Tiruppattur fort which belongs to Cuddapah, but lost a great part of his forces and was taken prisoner mortally wounded. The Marathas while in these parts collected certain sums from the northward poligars and are now gone west, it is thought, to join Balaji Rao. For Orme's negotiations with Mysore, refer to the Private Committee's Proceedings of February 1. The French have been making preparations to take the field and say they are only awaiting their expected reinforcements, although it is scarcely consistent with their late inactivity. Their remaining in garrison has permitted the English to do the same; so that if the Nawab's assignments had come in as well as they did last year, his debt would have been considerably reduced; but owing to the various disturbances little has been received and the Nawab's debt is reduced by only 17,777 Pags. Bussy continued in the Rajahmundry country till the middle of January, when he marched for Aurangabad. The last report announces his arrival there. The intercepted letters sent by the Company, and every step the French take both abroad and at home, show that the French Court approve the plans laid down by Dupleix. Their great force on the Coast enables them to keep peaceful possession of their large grants to the northward, the revenues of which will in a few years come into their treasury unless we can raise a commotion among the Rajas there. This is impossible in the present state of our forces. The Chandernagore prisoners have been sent down by a cartel ship, the *Restitution*, for which Leyrit promised a safe conduct; but she was seized by the French prisoners and carried into Masulipatam. She has since arrived at Pondichery. Leyrit refuses to return her at present, on the pretext that the English broke the capitulation of Chandernagore. This at present prevents an exchange of prisoners. Until the matter is settled, the 30 Frenchmen brought here last month on the *Drake* will be detained. Captain Hislop, to whom we are much indebted, begs the Secret Committee's assistance in obtaining a major's brevet, as by the time this despatch arrives he will be one of the oldest captains in His Majesty's train. Forward a letter from Engineer Call with plans of the works carried and to be carried into execution. These are approved and all assistance will be afforded him. Although a great part of the works are not completed, the Town is already strong enough to

be out of danger, should the enemy's reinforcements arrive. Steevens has not yet appeared but must do so in a few days, when Pocock promises that he will cruise on the best station to prevent the arrival of French forces. Pigot has received a letter from Caillaud saying that Haidar Nayak is marching on the Mysore capital, that Astruc is still at Dindigul and everything quiet in the Tinnevelly country [1].

Appended are lists of the packets (pp. 10-11).

DESPATCH FROM THE SELECT COMMITTEE AT MADRAS TO THE SECRET COMMITTEE. FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 20, 1758. [*Military Despatches to England, Vol.* 2, *pp.* 11—15 (*copy* 5 *pp.*).]

This goes *via* China. Report the arrival of 11 French ships under the command of D'Aché, with Lally as Commander-in-chief of all the French forces. They appeared off Fort St. David April 28—7 dropping anchor, 2 lying out to sea, and 2 proceeding to Pondichery. Pocock and Steevens sailed southward from Madras April 17, with His Majesty's ships the *Yarmouth, Elizabeth, Tyger Cumberland, Weymouth, Salisbury, Newcastle* and *Queenborough.* Pocock put into Negapatam, and having sailed by Karikal and other southern ports, reached Fort St. David-April 29. The French, on his appearance, put out to sea. Pocock chased them. The 2 fleets formed a line of battle about noon; but it was not till 3 o'clock in the afternoon that the engagement began 10 leagues northward of Pondichery. After 2 hours, the French Admiral broke the line and bore away followed by the other 8 ships, and on being joined by the other two which had been away to leeward, 'hauled their wind' to the southwest. The masts and rigging of our squadron were so much damaged that they could not sail so well to windward. The French reached the coast at Alambarai where one of them, the *Bien-Aimé,* 74 guns, was obliged to run ashore. The rest reached Pondichery while ours were repairing their damages between Sadras and Covelong. Lally reached Pondichery the 28th. Early next morning a large detachment entered the Fort St. David bounds. Though the appearance of our squadron prevented the French from landing more men, the detachment continued there and ever since the French have been collecting all their forces at Fort St. David and sending thither great quantities of stores. They are posted at the garden-house

[1] See Orme's *History*, vol. ii, pp. 293-294.

and at Cuddalore. The latter being of great extent and open in many places was surrendered on terms by 2 companies of sepoys left there, according to plan. On the 13th, the enemy had not yet opened batteries against Fort St. David, nor is their number exactly known, but they evidently expect to be able to take it. We have done everything possible for its defence. The fortifications are complete; provisions plentiful; and the garrison as large as can be spared from Madras. Unfortunately our forces are unequal to their extensive duties, so that neither here nor at Fort St. David is the garrison as strong as is necessary; but the crew of the *Triton and Bridgewater*, 250 men, threw themselves into the fort when their ships were surrounded by the French squadron on April 28. Pocock was off Alambarai, May 13. He is resolved to attack the French if he can meet them outside the Pondichery road; and the safety of the English settlements will depend on the issue of the battle. Even after the loss of *Bien-Aimé*, their squadron is by no means inferior to ours. If they avoid a second action, Pocock will proceed to Fort St. David to assist it if possible. If the enemy takes Fort St. David, their future conduct will probably depend on their losses before that place. The great force sent out suggests that its object is the conquest of the English. If Lally finds himself equal to attack Madras, he will let nothing divert him from it. So preparations are being made as if the siege was certain. Want of information regarding our reinforcements is much to be regretted, for without it no decision can be taken whether or not to abandon all other garrisons. We trust that such difficulties will be taken into consideration in judging the measures that will be adopted.

Postscript.—A vessel which passed Pondichery May 17, reports that all the French ships were anchored there; and another reports seeing on the 18th several ships in the St. David's road supposed to be Pocock's squadron.

DESPATCH FROM THE SELECT COMMITTEE AT MADRAS TO THE SECRET COMMITTEE. FORT ST. GEORGE, AUGUST 10, 1758. [*Military Despatches to England, Vol.* 2, *pp.* 16—20 (*copy* 5 *pp.*).]

Cite despatch of May 20. The report that Pocock was in the Fort St. David road on May 18 was false. He only got as far south as Alambarai, May 26, and for several days could not get a mile southward. Fort St. David capitulated, June 2. The articles of capitulation are recorded in Military Consultations of June 12;

and the resolution of the Council of War held the 1st in Military Consultations of June 27. These explain the state of the garrison and reasons for the surrender. Lally has not kept one of the articles. He refuses to exchange prisoners as agreed, and will not allow any one on parole to come to Madras. When Wynch and Polier arrive, further enquiry will be made into the cause of surrender. A few days later most of the French troops marched south and occupied Nagore, a few miles north of Negapatam. All the merchandise there was seized and sold to Fischer, Colonel of Hussars in the French service, for 2½ lakhs of rupees. Lally then demanded a large sum of money from the King of Tanjore, a passage for his troops, and assistance against Trichinopoly. Not being satisfied, he marched against Tanjore, being rather harassed than opposed by the Tanjore forces under Manoji. A few miles from Tanjore, the French halted to renew negotiations; and having lost some men in skirmishes and being distressed for provisions, they are said, in a letter from Caillaud of July 25, to have made peace on condition of receiving 4 lakhs and not being interrupted in the attack on Trichinopoly. Daily expect to hear that the place is invested. As Polier is prisoner, have recommended to the Council to appoint Caillaud Major. He will certainly do all that is possible for the defence of Trichinopoly. As he has 350 Europeans besides Coffrees and topasses and 4,000 sepoys under Yusuf Khan, the French are certain to meet with considerable loss. According to Caillaud's intelligence, Lally has 2,370 Europeans with 200 more on their way to join him; Soupire has 600 near Pondichery; in Pondichery itself are a large number of sick. Bussy is said to be marching from Hyderabad to Masulipatam with 600 Europeans under orders to move to the southward. Unless we soon receive reinforcements, it will be impossible to keep possession of anything outside our walls. The fortifications are in a good state; the glacis and covered way finished; platforms laid on the new bastions to the north; and 3 lunettes to the north almost finished. But the works demand a much larger number of men than we have. As the Squadron had not been able even to make Pondichery when Fort St. David surrendered, and was running short of water, Pocock was advised to return to Madras and take in a good stock. The squadron was at anchor here from June 6 to July 25. Having taken in water and provisions, fitted the *Protector* as fire-ship, and repaired damages, they then sailed southward; and on appearing to the leeward of Pondichery, the French fleet also weighed and stood to the

southward also. On August 3, off Negapatam, the fleets were in warm action for an hour and a quarter. The French were again endeavouring to destroy our masts and rigging. The *Comte de Provence*, the French Commodore's ship, took fire and was obliged to cut away her mizen-mast and leave the line, after which the rest also bore away with all the sail they could make. We chased them for some time, but most of the ships were so damaged in their masts and rigging that they could hardly make sail. The fleet anchored near Karikal. The French went to Pondichery where they landed a great number of wounded. We lost 31 killed and 116 wounded. The Commodore [Steevens] received a shot on the shoulder; and Captain Martin a bruise in the leg. Since this, our Squadron has taken a small ship with medicines and shot from Mauritius bound to Pondichery. Officers on board her report that, when they sailed a month ago, there was only one ship, the *Centaur*, with not enough men to sail. Captain Barton arrived here August 8 by a sloop from Gombroon. The letters he brought with him from Aleppo were taken from him in the desert. The Dutch report that an English ship arrived at Galle in June and proceeded to Bengal. She is supposed to be the *Hardwicke*.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., AT MADRAS. LONDON, NOVEMBER 11, 1757. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 61, *pp.* 33—65 (*original*, 33 *pp.*).]

Cite despatches of March 25, April 27 and August 3, 1757. The *Expedition* Packet was seized by a French privateer on August 29 and carried to Vigo in Spain, where Captain Barton and his crew were released. He and his young son proceeded overland *via* Bussora and Aleppo. Acknowledge the receipt of the despatches, dated October 13 and November 21, 1756, and letters from the Select Committee, dated February 28 and March 11, 1757. Constitution of the Secret Committee. War between Great Britain and France is now actively carried on. The rumours of the departure of the French fleet for the East Indies is confirmed by newspaper reports. The Council must therefore be on their guard and co-operate if necessary with the other presidencies. The Bengal packet is important and should be forwarded without delay.

Of the 16 ships taken up, 3 viz., the *Hardwicke*, *Warren*, and *London*, are for the Coast and Bay, and 6 for the Coast and China. This goes by the *Hardwicke*. The China and Madras ships will

leave about mid-December and the Coast and Bay ships by the end of January. Enclose list of shipping. No ship will be sent to Madeira this season. An advice ship is being built with 3 decks, 400 tons burden, 24 guns. She is to be named the *Dispatch* and Commanded by Captain William Cooke. Supra-cargoes for Canton and Limpao. Usual instructions regarding goods for China. Ships which cannot be employed on the Coast may be sent to China with cargo to be despatched thence to Europe. Kintlage and cargo on the Coast and Bay ships. New clauses in the Commander's instructions relating to the destruction of packets in case of danger, and their transmission in advance to the East India House from the port of arrival. Council to provide tonnage for surplus Sumatra pepper. Vessels and boats required for Sumatra should be constructed at Bombay. The long boats ordered to be built at Vizagapatam can hardly be built there as well and as cheaply as at Bombay. Approve the Council's not detaining last year's China ships in order to lade redwood. No information has been received regarding the detention of the *Colchester* at the Negrais. In future all information regarding such circumstances must be sent. The Malabar men, who had been officers of the King of Travancore, were transported by order of the Anjengo council to St. Helena. Five hung themselves and the rest threatened to do the same. In future, 'no such people, delinquents, or malefactors of any kind' are to be sent thither, but only useful slaves.

The woollen goods consigned to Madras consist of 231 bales of cloth, 10 of long ells and 53 pieces of white flannels, besides 437 bales of cloth and 100 of long ells extra to be sent to Bengal in case the old stock on hand remains unsold. 220 bales of cloth are consigned to Bengal; 1,365 bales of cloth, 113 of long ells and 3 of allopeens and camblets to Bombay; 843 bales of cloth, 25 of shalloons, and 210 of long ells to Persia; 291 bales of cloth, 360 of long ells, and 240 pieces of hairbines, serges and camblets to China. Only 400 barrels of good gunpowder are sent owing to the danger of lading large quantities on ships. Stores and medicines for the squadron. The needs of Bengal should be satisfied as far as possible. Large supplies of cannon and naval stores must have been obtained by the capture of Chandernagore, and it may be possible to send some down to Madras. In case the *Kent* or any other of His Majesty's ships is disabled or condemned, the Admiral may be asked to spare the Company her guns. Regret to find that so much woollen goods remain unsold. The Council's persistent aversion

to public sales, and leaning to the old method of private contracts, are intended probably to gratify the private and lucrative views of the President and others. The Council must obey their repeated commands for public sales. Disapprove of the practice of contracting with covenanted servants for making gunpowder or any other article. Agree to the alloying of Madras Pagodas with silver instead of copper, in order to increase their currency in the Northern settlements. Enclose the Accountant's remarks on the assay of coins sent. In the account of remains, stores should be described with greater precision.

As regards the investment, it is clear that the Council is determined to oppose every measure that interferes with their private interest; otherwise their partiality for the Company's merchants is unaccountable. Cannot believe that proposals would not have been received unless merchants had been studiously discouraged from making public proposals. The Company's orders must be carried out. The steps already taken to recover the balance from the Fort St. David merchants must be followed up. To prevent thefts from bales, some one belonging to the ship should proceed in every boat carrying bales. Culprits when detected must be severely punished. Desire, if obtainable at a reasonable price, goods resembling the fabric of Bengal. Are not sending any list of investment this season. Bengal to be reminded about sending the necessary stock of saltpetre for the homeward shipping.

'Although . . . we had some reason to be dissatisfied with your not sending a more speedy assistance to our servants in Bengal and your giving such an extensive and uncontrollable power to Colonel Clive, yet upon the whole, we observe many marks of care and good conduct which deserve our approbation.' Both Madras and Bombay must be prepared to render such assistance as may from time to time be needed in Bengal, 'the safety whereof is of infinite concern to the Company.' Send His Majesty's Letters Patent confirming the agreement made with Watson giving the Company half the plunder taken from the Moors. The general question of the Company's right to similar captures has been referred to the Company's counsel. The Company is probably entitled to the whole of the prizeship *L'Indien* taken from the French by Commodore James, but definite instructions will be issued in the next despatch. Hope that Commodore Steevens will reach India before the French fleet, and that the latter on reaching the Isles will be distressed for provisions owing to the capture of

Chandernagore and thereby prevented from doing much mischief. Mutual harmony must be cultivated between the several presidencies, especially in times of war. Madras was too hasty in condemning Bombay for delaying to send help to Bengal, as the motives for this delay could not have been known. The Council must keep in view the reduction of the Nawab's debt by all possible means.

The cost of the Island bridge and the barracks much exceeds the estimates. In future estimates must be much more exact. Are pleased with the progress reported in the works at Fort St. George. The works must be completed as quickly as possible, but with the least possible expenditure. Approve of the additions proposed to the Devikottai fort, but the estimate of 7,000 Pags. must not be exceeded. As gunpowder cannot be shipped without risk to the ships, it must be made locally. Disapprove of the contract made with Wynch and Bourchier, as no contract should be made with covenanted servants. Call for an annual return of ammunition and stores on hand. The loss of Calcutta shows the danger of a lack of good gunpowder. Gunpowder in stock should be examined frequently and as often as necessary to ensure its good condition. If a direct assessment on the inhabitants is not possible at present, perhaps an additional duty on imports and exports may be levied, as in Bombay, in order to pay for the works. The privilege of the *Naubat* may be retained only so long as it does not cost the Company anything extra. Approve of the restoration of confiscated houses in Madras to the claimants on condition of selling them to European Protestants.

Permit the farming of Poonamallee, etc., for a term not exceeding 5 years, if such a course is thought advantageous. The expenses of our settlements are so excessive that the profits on our trade are entirely absorbed by them. The Company's revenues must therefore be increased. Approve of the prohibition of Europeans to bid for and take up farm or stand as security for renters. Though it may be difficult to get proper security from the renters, the Council must take care to get the best they can. In regard to the Tiruvendipuram farm, which formerly was let for 8,000 Pags. a year and which is now let to Linga Chetti for 6,100 Pags. the decrease cannot be attributed to the latter lease having been for one year only. The Company are informed that the former renters authorized Linga Chetti to bid up to 9,000 Pags. on that account, but there being no bidders at Madras, Linga Chetti was able to get the farm for himself at 6,100 Pags. Direct an

examination into the matter. In future the St. David's farms are to be put up for sale at St. David's.

Approve of the appointment of the Rev. Mr. Richard Cobb as a Company's Chaplain either at Madras or in Bengal. Regard the delay to fill the Chiefship of Vizagapatam under pretence of business, as a mere evasion of the Company's orders. Regard Andrews as the fittest person for that post, whereas Smith cannot yet have attained sufficient experience. Either the Company's orders must be complied with or convincing reasons must be given for acting otherwise. Observe there were many seniors to James Bourchier who might have been appointed Chief of Devikottai. Seniority should not be overlooked in these cases without sufficient reason. In future Company's servants are not to be permitted to return home *via* China as was done in James Broadbent's case. If Charles Simpson does not mend his ways, he may be dismissed and sent home. Captain Edmund Maskelyne is to make his choice whether to continue in the military or return to the civil service. For his mismanagement at Devikottai, Hopkins should have been suspended. He is at once to be dismissed and the Company's loss recovered from him if possible. Appoint as writers, Edward Stracey, Edward Cotsford (now at Bombay), Richard Lathom, and James Lawrell. The writers for Bengal, coming by the Coast and China ships should be accommodated during their stay at Madras. As to the grant of an extraordinary allowance of 100 Pags. a month to Colonel Lawrence, the Company have so high a regard for his honour that they leave it to him to determine what may be reasonable. Had the allowance been made to any one else, the Council would have suffered for it. As for the statement that the Colonel's allowances were not equal to the advantages of the command of a company of artillery, require an immediate explanation and an exact scrutiny into the conduct of the commanders of artillery companies. Military promotions must take place by seniority except in unusual circumstances. Disapprove the supersession of Lieutenant Stephen Augustus De Monchanin, by Lieutenant Richard Smith, as the former's vigilance and activity during constant service in the field are well known. Lawrence gave him command of a company of Coffrees and seems to have had no objection to his conduct. Have re-appointed him a Lieutenant on the Madras establishment. He is to succeed to the first vacant company and then to take rank next below Captain Achilles Preston and above Captain Richard Smith. He sails on the *Hardwicke*. If a Town Major can be

dispensed with, the post should be abolished; and all military expenses, especially batta, should be reduced to the lowest possible point. The Company was under no obligation to provide fresh provisions for Adlercron's officers on their passage home, and no promise should have been made to the Captain to recommend him to the Company for an allowance. Appoint as cadets Lyon Schomberg, Frederick Daillan, Lawrence Mahilvane, and Anthony Lewis Polier. It is very difficult to get recruits for the Company owing to the demand for the King's army. Every effort is being made and about 100 are being sent by this ship. Certificates should be given for the silver sent out by Mrs. Elizabeth Dod to her son, a Bengal writer, since deceased. Appreciate the good work done by the Committee of Accounts. The shroff and his assistants who put fanams into sealed bags purporting to contain pagodas, deserved severer punishment. Approve the discontinuance of the practice of sealing bags of money. The debt due from the guilty shroff on account of the Poonamallee rent must be recovered. Have discharged the bill drawn in 1746 by the Madras Council for 3,000 Pags. payable to Samuel Bennett; and also the balance of £874 due to John Gray, carpenter at Madras. Direct that the balance of 3,165 Rs. be paid to Coja Shawmier Sultan. The old Madras bond for 20,000 Pags. given to the China Jesuits at 6% is not irredeemable (as they claim) and may be paid off. Call for a clearer statement of the Sea Customer's and Paymaster's accounts and send copies of papers relating thereto. The claims of Stratton's son should be carefully scrutinised. As Stratton succeeded Eyre as Sea Customer, it is possible that payments made by Eyre might have been shown in Stratton's account. Saunders declares that Captain Schaub's original muster rolls were never delivered to him. They should be in the Paymaster's office. Leave it to the Council to determine how much should be recovered from Schaub as overcharge. Though legal proof may be lacking, it seems clear that Schaub has not acted fairly to the Company. In supersession of previous instructions, the existing cipher may be used but with the writer's signatures by way of authentication. If the cipher in Bengal is really lost, the copy in Madras may be sent thither. Constitution of the Bengal Council.

Sumatra affairs.

Have taken up another ship for Madras, named the *Pitt*, 600 tons, 250 men and 50 guns.

DESPATCH FROM THE SECRET COMMITTEE TO THE SELECT COMMITTEE AT MADRAS. LONDON, NOVEMBER 11, 1757. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol.* 1, *pp.* 235—239 (*original*, 5 *pp.*)]

Acknowledge the receipt of despatches, dated October 11, November 20, 1756, February 28, and March 11, 1757. This goes by the *Hardwicke*. Complain that the Select Committee is managing affairs never intended to fall under its control. This has led to a duplication of books and papers which renders it difficult to follow many transactions; and also matters not intended to be secret have unavoidably been withheld from the knowledge of the Court of Directors. The Committee is to transact business with Europeans and Indian powers only so far as secrecy is necessary. Plans when concerted with His Majesty's Commanders are to be laid before the Council for their determination. As regards the Nawab's debt, such comments as might be prejudicial to the Company's credit, if known, are to be made by the Select Committee to the Secret Committee. In short, everything not requiring secrecy is to be managed by the Governor and Council.

No doubt the early intelligence of the Bombay expedition and the arrival of Steevens' Squadron will have frustrated the purpose of the French expedition despatched last spring. It is not yet known what forces are being despatched from France this year. It is most regrettable that the situation in Bengal prevented advantage being taken of the quarrel between Salabat Jang and the French. If another opportunity occurs, the project is not to be omitted; and meanwhile a good understanding with Salabat Jang should be cultivated. Nothing will more assist to reduce the strength of our enemy and increase our power. Acknowledge the good services of Watson and Clive in the recovery of Calcutta and of Pocock at the capture of Chandernagore. Congratulate the Committee on the success of the Bengal expedition, the arrangements for which were well meant though not altogether approved. Approve the measures taken to reduce the Nawab's debt, but this branch of affairs must, in future, fall under the management of the President and Council. Recognize the difficulty of the Mysore negotiations, but it will be of great service if they can ever be brought to success. It is hoped that before now Colonel Clive with some of his forces will have been able to return to Madras. The Company has found such great difficulty in raising men that His Majesty has granted drafts from newly raised Royal Regiments amounting to 1,100 including officers. Two hundred will be kept

back to go by two of the later Coast and Bay ships. The rest will sail on the China ships.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., AT MADRAS. LONDON, DECEMBER 23, 1757. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 61, *pp.* 66—78 (*original*, 13 *pp.*)]

Cite despatch of November 11, 1757. This goes by the China ships, on which are laden 173 bales of cloth for Bombay, and 50 chests of treasure for Madras and Bengal. As a mint has been opened at Calcutta, bullion may now be sent thither. Send also a large quantity of naval and victualling stores for the Squadron. The *Pitt*, though despatched in a mercantile way, is to serve also as a ship of force, and her commander, Captain William Wilson, has been appointed Commodore of all Company's vessels he meets with either on his outward or homeward voyage, and he has his orders to protect them so far as lies in his power from any attack by the French. The ship which was to be named the *Dispatch* has since been named the *Admiral Watson* in compliment to that brave and deserving officer. Supracargoes in China. Enclose a list of the investment. There is not the least prospect of peace. The Company being unable to raise recruits, native or foreign, His Majesty has ordered about thousand men to be drafted out of the newly raised regiments. The Company desired that these should be sent out without field officers, but the Ministry insisted on sending them out as a battalion under Lieutenant-Colonel William Draper and Majors Cholmondely Brereton and George Monson. The Company have been assured that these gentlemen have been plainly directed to avoid disputes, and the Colonel has declared his readiness to co-operate with the Company's officers. Direct the Council to behave with great civility to Colonel Draper and his officers so as to engage them to co-operate readily for the common benefit of the service. The battalion consists of 9 companies. Besides the officers already mentioned, there is a chaplain, an adjutant, a quartermaster, a surgeon and his three mates. The battalion proceeds on the China and Bengal ships: Draper, Brereton and Monson with 8 companies sail on the China ships; the other company will follow on 2 Bengal ships ordered to land them at Madras. Have allowed the commanders of these ships £50 each for feeding Draper, Brereton and Monson, and £30 for each of the other commissioned officers, and have paid the owners £10 a head for dieting the private men, etc., as well as laying in a proper quantity of brandy

on each ship for the men. The ships' surgeons (except on the *Pitt* on which the battalion surgeon sails), may receive head-money usually paid for the Company's recruits. In addition, special instructions have been given to the ships' captains regarding their treatment of the battalion. Have allowed £400 a year to Draper, and £200 each to Brereton and Monson to meet house-rent and table charges; no other allowances are to be made them excepting field batta. Presume that the allowance of 40 *s.* a day allowed to Adlercron was stopped on receipt of his orders of recall. The King's troops are to receive from the Company allowances making their pay the same as that of corresponding ranks in the Company's service—captains 2*s.* a day; lieutenants, ensigns, chaplains, surgeons, adjutants, and quartermasters, 1 *s.*; surgeon's mates 10 *d.*; sergeants, corporals, drummers and private men 2 *d.* each. The King's troops are also to receive the same allowances in the field as are made to the Company's. They are to be lodged in the best manner possible and to be provided with lights and fuel, if these are allowed to the Company's troops. In regard to batta, this allowance is to be revised and reduced as much as possible. Colonel Draper has been informed of this order and the Company anticipates that he will give all assistance in carrying it out. No persons are to draw double allowance, except as adjutant or quartermaster. When the King's troops take the field, they are to be provided with forage, wood and straw. The Company are not aware whether these are included under batta. In any case King's and Company's troops are to receive the same allowances, but no innovations are to be made. No Colonel has been appointed in order not to supersede Lawrence and Clive, who have older commissions than Draper. Appoint John Stacey as cadet next to Anthony Lewis Polier, and Richard Clive as writer next to James Lawrell. Point out discrepancies between the Madras and Fort St. David books on the one side and the Commissary's accounts on the other. Require the latter to be examined by the Committee of Accounts. Demand details for the monthly charge of 1,400 Pags. paid to the King's troops, as the amount appears greatly in excess of what was ordered by the Company on March 2, 1754. Other discrepancies in accounts. The arrival of Draper's regiment will doubtless enable Madras to spare troops for Bengal, and a draft is to be sent thither which will make up the Bengal garrison to 500 effective Europeans. A detachment of good sepoys may also be sent thither, if the President in Council think fit. Obedience to these orders will not

exempt Madras from sending additional assistance if it should be required. The Government intend sending out two more men-of-war. Send copy of the resolutions of the Proprietors, of December 21, thanking Watson, Pocock and Clive for their eminent and signal services.

DESPATCH FROM THE SECRET COMMITTEE TO THE SELECT COMMITTEE AT MADRAS. LONDON, DECEMBER 23, 1757. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol.* 1, *pp.* 241–242 (*original* 2 *pp.*)]

Regarding a project to secure Chinese emigrants from Limpao and Amoy to settle on the West Coast of Sumatra. The Madras Committee is to facilitate it by all means in its power.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., AT MADRAS. LONDON, JANUARY 27, 1758. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 61, *pp.* 79–80 (*original*, 2 *pp.*)]

Cite despatch of December 23, 1757. Send on the *Pitt*, 2½ chests of gold (equivalent to 30 chests of silver), instead of 20 chests of silver. Captain Wilson will deliver at Madras 2 chests of Buccaneer guns, provided he has not disposed of them in the purchase of refreshments at Madagascar. In case Wilson dies, his successor in command of the *Pitt* is to be Commodore. Are informed that the French fleet of 7 large ships, which left L'Orient last spring, put into Rio Janeiro to refresh and that it was to sail thence in September. Send Letters Patent,[1] dated January 14, 1758, regarding Company's right to booty.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., AT MADRAS. LONDON, FEBRUARY 15, 1758. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 61, *pp.* 115–116 (*original*, 2 *pp.*)]

Have just received news of the revolution in Bengal. As that event has so filled the Company's treasury at Fort William that no treasure need be sent thither from either Madras or Bombay, but rather the needs of the latter places may be supplied from Bengal, the following alterations have been made in the disposition of the treasure sent out this season: The 30 chests of silver consigned to Madras on the China ships are to be sent on to China, with 35 more chests from the Madras treasury to make good the same number which will be taken ashore at Portsmouth out of the *Pitt*. Are sending out 1,00,000 pounds in gold to Madras.

[1] Copy in *Public Despatches from England*, vol. 61, pp. 207–212.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., AT MADRAS. LONDON, MARCH 8, 1758. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 61, *pp.* 101--114 (*original*, 14 *pp.*)]

Cite despatches of December 23, 1757, January 27 and February 15, 1758. Send lists of shipping. His Majesty's men-of-war, the *Grafton* (70 guns) and *Sunderland* (60 guns) have sailed to the East Indies as escort to the Company's ships. This goes by the *Warren* and *London* on which are sent the remaining part of the battalion. All the treasure on these ships is consigned to Madras, as by the last news from Bengal none was wanted there. In future, accidents to Company's ships should be enquired into and the proceedings noted in the Consultations. Have reduced the investment in copper in order to reduce its price and to break the ring formed by dealers. This is alleged to have induced ships' officers to lade a quantity without license on their own account. Order a thorough search to be made for the same and a full report if any should be discovered. In case His Majesty's ships carry their convoy into Madeira, the Company's correspondents there have orders to send 140 pipes to Madras, of which half, if possible, should be sent to Bengal. Bullion imported at Fort St. George is to be coined in the Company's mint. Those who do not choose to do so may re-export it on paying a duty of ½ *per cent.* All bullion imported is to be regularly entered in the books of the Sea Custom officer. Certificates to be given for the proceeds of silver sent out to Nathan Drake, a Bengal writer since deceased. Orders regarding Clive's position in Bengal should he remain there. In case the Major's post at Bengal falls vacant, Major Polier is to have the option of proceeding thither, and failing him Captain John Caillaud should succeed. One Samuel Shepherd Jennings (*alias* Jenyns) was sent out in 1745 as a recruit and was serving in Captain Maskelyne's company at Fort St. David in 1755. He belongs to a respectable family and a legacy of £4,000 having lately been left to him, his friends desire that he may be sent to England without delay. Henry Crabb Boulton complains that Henry Harling (late surgeon of the *Delawar*) has drawn several bills on him, though he has no money to his credit. Such characters are undeserving of the Company's protection and he is to be sent home at once. Samuel Talcott who had leave to reside in India as a free merchant is suspected of wishing to settle in China. This cannot be permitted; and if he goes, the supracargoes should be directed to send him home. Regarding the custody of suitors, money referred to in the Madras Despatch of November 21, 1756,

paragraph 140, it was never intended that the Registrar should have charge of any deposits for however short a term. A suitor directed to pay a deposit will at once obtain from the Accountant-General a certificate to the Governor and Council to whom or to the Governor (should the Council not be sitting) the deposit should be immediately paid. Bills drawn on the Company by the Fort William Council when at Fulta. In future the Bengal covenanted servants' trade with the Coromandel Coast is not to be limited to Madras.

Sumatra affairs.

Appoint as cadets for Madras Alexander Smith, James Morgan and Edward Ironside. Complain that Manningham when at Madras was detained there, though his return was important, by the institution of a private suit. Demand the name of the person who thus disregarded the Company's interests. Presume that Captain Brohier of the Second Company of artillery has been appointed to succeed the late Captain D'Illens of the First Company. Have transferred James Lawrell to the Bengal establishment. Have obtained Letters Patent, dated January 14, 1758, granting the Company all booty taken by their land and sea forces, and all territories acquired by treaty, grant or conquest. But as an encouragement to the troops they may be allowed a half of all booty, exclusive of arms, ammunition and military stores. If any ship be taken, the value thereof including cargo, ammunition, stores, etc., is to be equally divided between the Company and captors. Call for a report as to how the Bengal booty was distributed among the Company's and His Majesty's forces. In the case of plunder taken in actions in which both Company's and King's troops are engaged, the entire plunder is to be retained by the Company pending His Majesty's decision. If it is decided to allot half of it to the captors, it shall be distributed in the proportions previously agreed upon between the Company's and King's troops. Agreements must therefore be made before-hand on all occasions when both King's and Company's troops will be employed, for the reservation of half the booty for the Company. Regarding *L'Indien*, the French ship captured by Commodore James, evidence must be sent home to enable her to be condemned in the Admiralty Court. If the King grant her to the Company, half the proceeds will be allotted to the captors. On February 14, received news by the *Diligent* schooner, of the revolution in Bengal and of the loss of the Northern settlements. Acknowledge the receipt of despatches and letters:—From the Council,

dated June 6, July 30; from Call, dated June 25; from the Select Committee, dated June 6 and July 30; from Pigot, dated August 1; from Colonel Lawrence, dated July 7; and from Captain Brohier, dated March 14, 1757. The *Diligent* schooner, which put into Limerick could not be returned immediately to India, because her commander has been allowed to bring home a private adventure, and by law all goods from the East Indies must be landed at London. In future, commanders of advice ships are not to be allowed to lade any goods whatever. The 'flowing cash' in Bengal will permit Madras to be supplied thence with treasure both for their own expenses and investment and for remittance to China. Appoint Colonel Clive, President and Governor of Bengal, in recognition of his eminent services there. He will also preside at the Select Committee. Robert Orme will fill his place in Madras as Second in Council, and is to succeed George Pigot as Governor.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., AT MADRAS. LONDON, MARCH 23, 1758. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 61, *pp.* 118—120 (*original*, 3 *pp.*)]

Relates to Bengal affairs.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., AT MADRAS. LONDON, MAY 12, 1758. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 61, *pp.* 121—128 (*original*, 8 *pp.*)]

Cite despatch of March 8. Approve of the directions given by the Secret Committee in their despatch of November 11, 1757, regarding the division of business between the Select Committee and the Council. The Committee is dealing with affairs not originally intended to form part of its province. It should, in future, confine itself to such transactions with the European powers and plans of military operations as should be kept secret for the time being. All other matters are to be dealt with in the Council. The Nawab's debt is the Council's business; but reflections thereon which might be prejudicial to the Company's credit if divulged, should be reported to the Secret Committee. The Secret Committee consists of Laurence Sulivan, Roger Drake, Christopher Burrow, Nathaniel Newnham (junior) and Henry Plant. In modification of previous directions, the presence of Robert Orme, though Second, will be needed at Madras, and therefore some suitable member of Council must be appointed Deputy Governor at Fort St. David. Constitution of the Council in Bengal. It appears from what Perceval and Brohier write that Perceval's conduct in

surrendering Vizagapatam was unexceptionable, and that by securing the Company's books, papers, etc., he did everything that was possible. He is to be appointed to some station where his services will be advantageous to the Company and beneficial to himself. Attacks will doubtless be made on other settlements, and the Chiefs must exert themselves to make a proper defence, otherwise resistance will be impossible. As the Northern settlements are important, every effort must be made to recover them. Have now received the depositions regarding the capture of *L' Indien*, but these may not be sufficient to secure a condemnation of that ship. Desire the ship's papers and one or two of her crew to be sent home.

To avoid such calamities as the capture of Madras and Calcutta, the following rules are laid down:—In case Madras should be besieged, the powers of the Governor and Council are to be suspended and the sole control vested in a Committee consisting of the President, Lawrence, the Major, the Engineer, and the next most capable military officer. Whoever falls short of his duty is to be tried by a general court-martial, and no fortification is to be given up unless a breach has been made and attacked. This Military Committee is to be dissolved as soon as the siege is over. Should a capitulation be necessary, the treaty must be considered and approved by the Governor and Council. Colonel Lawrence, the Major and the Engineer are appointed a committee to inspect every 3 months, or oftener, if necessary, magazines, fortifications, ramparts, guns, carriages, platforms, arms, granary, etc., and report defects and deficiencies to the Council. Madras should in all respects be in a state of defence with plenty of ammunition and provisions. This Committee should supervise the supply of military stores to other places. The Council should issue suitable instructions for the defence of Fort St. David.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., AT MADRAS. LONDON, JULY 5, 1758. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 61, *pp.* 129—143 (*original*, 15 *pp.*)]

Acknowledge the receipt of despatches or letters from the Council, dated November 15, from the Select Committee, dated October 13, 20, and November 10; from George Pigot, dated November 19; and from Call, dated October 30, 1757. Cite despatches of March 8 and May 12, 1758. Approve the measures taken to secure the China ships which were in the roads when the

French squadron reached Pondichery. Approve of the detention under these special circumstances of the 2 China ships to be laded at Fort St. George for Sumatra, especially as two of the Coast and Bay ships will doubtless have been sent to China in their stead. The China trade is of so much importance to the Company that it should be encouraged as much as possible. Apparently the 2 ships were chosen by lot. This was proper to prevent complaints of partiality. As the *Tavistock* was found to be unfit to proceed to England, the protest regarding her is approved. Complain of the *Princess Augusta* and the *Norfolk* being still in the Madras roads so late as November 21, in spite of previous orders for the early despatch of shipping. Should any accident result from the detention of ships in the Madras roads at such a dangerous season, the Council will meet with the Company's severest resentment unless they can give most satisfactory reasons for their conduct. The *Duke* bought for the Sumatra service seems to have been a bad bargain, as she lost her first passage to Sumatra and had to put back to Madras. In future all shipping for the Company's account is to be built at Bombay. The recent sudden purchases of ships seem suspicious. Require to know who surveyed the *Duke* and from whom it was bought. Complain that the *Prince Henry* was sent home with only some redwood when there were many bales on hand. Accept the statement that the high prices on the Coast prevent manufacturers from settling in the Company's towns as has been done at Calcutta; but insist that the number of merchants providing the investment should be increased. New merchants only refuse to come in, because they have been actively discouraged to do so. The practice of the Northern Chiefs of themselves providing the investment was pernicious, for it afforded opportunities for unfair practices, and must not be revived. No Company's servant of any rank should be in any way interested in the provision of the investments. On the recovery of the Northern settlements, the best method of providing the investment, whether by contract with the merchants or by sending gumastas to weaving centres, should be established. The allowance of extraordinary gratuities to the Chiefs of the Northern settlements needs explanation. Agree to the payment of 3,411 Pags. to John Calland for cloth provided by him at Ingeram without orders and captured by the French. Complain that few beteellas were sent by the *Norfolk* or *Princess Augusta*. They are much wanted and the full quantity should be procured. The beteellas received by the *Walpole* are worse than any that have ever been imported before. As regards the Negrais,

the Company's present situation does not justify new settlements. Such schemes must be deferred for more peaceful times. The Council should not be led by flattering prospects into new expenses. Will present the King of Burma's letter to His Majesty and send his reply. Although Captain Howes might have done good service as Chief of the Negrais had he lived, cannot approve of his appointment. In future all Chiefs should be covenanted servants. As it did not appear that the King of Siam was concerned in the seizure of the *Northumberland* and the massacre of her people at Junk-Ceylon, the Council acted prudently in not seizing 3 Siam ships in the Madras roads; but reprisals will be justified if he refuses compensation. Hope that the fortifications have been completed by this time. Approve of the demolition of the existing buildings that obstruct the defence of Madras. Buildings hereafter erected should be pulled down at the owners' cost. Are pleased to learn that Fort St. David is capable of resisting any attempt, provided it is properly garrisoned. Wynch's claim to the allowances of Deputy Governor of Fort St. David during Clive's absence was rightly left to be settled between them. Cannot sanction allowances to surgeons to provide European medicines at their cost. What medicines they want must be supplied on indent. As Charles Simpson has again misbehaved, he should be dismissed the service and sent to England. Have permitted John Whitehill to remain in India as a free merchant. Acquiesce in the increase of Call's salary as Assistant Engineer from 30 to 60 Pags. in consideration of his abilities; but the Company's permission should first have been taken. Cannot undertake to provide captains of companies with hats for their men. Will instruct Bengal and Bombay to supply slaves to Sumatra, as it will not be convenient to order outward bound ships to purchase them at Madagascar. The trade of the Bombay and Bengal servants with Sumatra cannot be forbidden.

Sumatra affairs.

Expect the Council to uphold the Company's authority which the Mayor's Court seems disposed to disregard. Refer to letters from the Select Committee, dated June 6, July 30, October 13 and 20, and November 10, 1757, and generally approve of the measures taken for the defence of the Company's settlements, and rely upon the Council's behaving properly in every exigency. Captain Caillaud's good conduct at Trichinopoly confirms the Company's opinion of him. Notice with great satisfaction the zeal shown by Lawrence in joining the army under Adlercron as a volunteer. Approve of

the Council's decision to suspend all operations and to withdraw the troops into the garrisons in view of the great superiority of the French. Are anxious to hear of the junction of the squadrons under Commodore Steevens and Admiral Pocock before either could be attacked by the French squadron. The Madras Committee were fully justified in pressing for the return of some of their troops from Bengal, and do not deserve the reproach made against them by the Bengal Committee of neglecting the general interest. Both Committees acted best under the circumstances. Although the great superiority of the French is likely to affect the Nawab's payments, efforts should be made to reduce his debt which reached so high a figure as 11,91,324 Pags. on April 30, 1757. Military charges form a big item in the monthly expenses of Madras, which come to nearly a lakh of Pagodas. These charges unless reimbursed by the Nawab must be 'such a wound as will bleed the Company's capital to death.' Acquiesce in the arrangement under which 2½ lakhs of Rs. were to be paid as chauth to the Marathas out of the Nawab's assignment of 8 lakhs to the Company. Approve of the efforts made to bring in Balaji Rao against the French on the score of their having paid the Marathas nothing. If the Nawab's residence at Madras is unavoidable, care should be taken that it does not put the Company to such extra expenses as formerly resulted from such residences[1]. Agree that the project against the Deccan in conjunction with the Marathas is now impracticable. Good relation should be maintained with the King of Tanjore. Approve of the steps taken to engage so many of Colonel Adlercron's regiment in the Company's service, and of the grant of a captain's commission to Carnac. As Adlercron's further stay in India would have been harmful, it was right to urge him to return home. The policy of the Company is not to promote foreigners to high commands: but they made an exception in Polier's case, owing to his general good character. The alleged[2] ill-usage of certain recruits can have no foundation, as only those recruits are sent who enter voluntarily at the East India House. Cannot send to India the recruits' contracts, as their sureties reside here. Have taken up 21 ships for the ensuing season according to the Secretary's list.

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[1] Cf. *Calendar of the Madras Despatches*, 1744—55, pp. 15 and 32.

[2] Madras Select Committee's Despatch of November 10, 1757.

THE MADRAS DESPATCHES, 1758—1759.

DESPATCH FROM THE SELECT COMMITTEE AT MADRAS TO THE SECRET COMMITTEE. FORT ST. GEORGE, OCTOBER 2, 1758. [*Military Despatches to England, Vol. 2, pp.* 48–49 (*copy, 2 pp.*)]

This will go by a Danish ship about the middle of the month from Tranquebar. Recapitulatory.

DESPATCH FROM THE SELECT COMMITTEE AT MADRAS TO THE SECRET COMMITTEE. FORT ST. GEORGE, OCTOBER 5/10, 1758. [*Military Despatches to England, Vol. 2, pp.* 21—45 (*copy, 25 pp.*)]

Cite despatch of May 20 and August 10. Now write by the *Grantham.*

Recapitulate the French movements, already described in despatches of May 20 and August 10. Regarding the action off Alambarai on April 28, Captains Brereton of the *Cumberland,* Vincent of the *Weymouth* and Legge of the *Newcastle,* have been court-martialled for failing to engage the enemy closely. Brereton lost a year's rank, Vincent was dismissed the command of his ship and Legge dismissed the service. Our losses in this action were 29 men killed and 89 wounded. Regarding the loss of Fort St. David, enquiries show that the enemy opened fire with 2 guns from Cuddalore, May 16; with 5 mortars from the New Town the 17th; with 7 guns and 5 mortars from a point 800 or 900 yards to the west on the 26th; on the 30th, 3 other batteries opened—1 of 5 guns 600 yards north-west, 1 of 9 guns and 3 mortars 700 or 800 yards north, and 1 of 4 guns 700 or 800 yards north-east. On June 1, the garrison desired to capitulate. Next day the fort surrendered. The Committee had expected the fort to hold out longer. Reasons for surrendering are mentioned in the Council of War, June 1, and in Military Consultation, June 27. Wynch[1] who has arrived on parole will furnish further accounts. Polier also will be requested on his arrival here to give his version.

When the French withdrew all their troops except a few sepoys from Srirangam, Caillaud occupied the place which was abandoned on his approach before the Mysore troops could arrive. On the fall of Fort St. David, the garrisons were withdrawn from

[1] The Dy. Governor.

Arcot, Chingleput and Karunguli. The enemy, however, moved south. A detachment appeared before Devikottai which the Chief and garrison abandoned and proceeded to Trichinopoly by way of Tanjore. Soon after Lally crossed the Coleroon, obtained ammunition and field guns from the Danes at Tranquebar, and encamped in the Negapatam bounds. He demanded from the Dutch a loan of money and a supply of cannon, ammunition and provisions, but they deny having furnished him with anything except provisions with which they supplied him continually during his expedition to Tanjore. After seizing Nagore, the French marched to the pagoda of Tiruvalur where they established a magazine, and sent deputies to Tanjore demanding the 70 lakhs of rupees promised by him to Chanda Sahib in 1749, and assistance against Trichinopoly. This being refused, they approached the capital and about July 20, the King offered terms. But while they were negotiating, their heavy cannon was coming up and provisions were being collected for an attack. The French perpetually made new demands. The King was brought to promise 300 horse and 1,000 Colleries to assist against Trichinopoly. Half a lakh of rupees was paid. About August 1, Lally, having completed his preparations, suddenly seized a party of 50 Tanjore horse who had joined him, erected batteries and made a large breach. Meanwhile 1,000 sepoys and some gunners had been sent to Tanjore from Trichinopoly. On August 9, a most successful sally was made. In spite of the large body of Europeans and disciplined sepoys under Lally's command, 100 Europeans were killed; a gun, a tumbril of ammunition, 2 elephants and some horses were taken; and 4 tumbrils of ammunition were blown up. That same night, either from want of ammunition or provisions or some other reason, Lally spiked his heavy guns and retreated towards Karikal.[1] Next morning, the Tanjoreans pursued and cut off 50 more of Lally's men and took 2 guns and 2 mortars. The rest moved to Tiruvalur and then to Karikal; but towards the end of the month, most of the troops with Lally himself returned to Pondichery, whither Soupire had returned a few days earlier after marching towards Wandiwash and back by Alambarai.

Early accounts had greatly exaggerated the French losses. Caillaud had been ordered to join the King of Tanjore with all

[1] A very interesting, and I think little-known, account of this affair by a French officer present occurs in Du Teil, *Une Famille Militaire*, page 131, etc.

the troops that could be spared, in case it should be possible to cut off the enemy's retreat to Pondichery; and Pocock had been desired to co-operate with Caillaud, while Lawrence marched south to prevent assistance being sent to Lally from Pondichery. But when the last reached Chingleput, he learnt that the enemy had re-crossed the Coleroon, and therefore returned to Madras. On July 25, Pocock sailed south with his squadron. Next day he sighted the French fleet which was standing south of Pondichery. They avoided him until August 3, when off Karikal, they bore down on him with 8 ships against his 7. The sea-breeze setting in about noon, gave Pocock the wind and at 1-20 p.m. the engagement began. The French could not long bear our fire, but had crippled our ships so badly in the rigging that we could not prevent their escape to Pondichery. Their loss of men is said to have been considerable. On July 29, the *Restitution* (the Calcutta cartel ship) coming with grain from Devikottai was driven ashore and burnt. Pocock is cruising off Karikal and Negapatam to protect ships coming from England and intercept hostile reinforcements. Caillaud's former orders in the event of an appearance of attack on Madras, to march to the Coast with all the Europeans and Coffrees of Trichinopoly and come here with the Squadron, have been renewed, although Palk and Lawrence consider the measure is now unnecessary.[1] The French are said to be preparing to blow up Fort St. David and are cutting down the bound-hedge. Subsequent information confirms the former estimate of the French strength in the field at 3,500 Europeans. Caillaud had reliable advice that Lally had a little over 2,300 before Tanjore. If Soupire had 800 at that time, the difference may be accounted for by sickness and by loss before Fort St. David. Believe they have 3,000 effective men remaining, exclusive of the Golconda army.

In June, Bussy and Salabat Jang marched from Aurangabad for Hyderabad. Leaving the Nizam there, Bussy proceeded to Masulipatam, it is understood, with orders to come southward. He has marched as far as Nellore with a considerable detachment of Europeans and sepoys; but as he has lately applied for a passport for himself, his secretary and five servants to go to Pondichery, it is not known whether the detachment is only an escort or whether it is to join Lally. In the latter case it will indicate a desire to attack Madras as soon as the Squadron leaves the Coast. Nothing else could induce the French to abandon territories which they

[1] Military Consultations, August 21 and 28.

have been ten years consolidating; but this will certainly happen if their forces are withdrawn. Even while they were at Aurangabad, Ananda Razu (Vijayaram Razu's nephew) cut off a party of 20 men at Ganjam and drove all French agents out of the Chicacole country. At present they hold only Rajahmundry and Masulipatam. Ananda Razu has invited us to Vizagapatam and asked for the assistance of a few Europeans. This cannot be done at present.

Do not yet know what help will come from Europe. The Engineer's address shows that the fortifications are in a good state. They have provisions for 5,000 men for three months. All gunpowder and stores possible have been brought in. The Royal Artillery Company sent out on the Bombay ships of last year arrived with Steevens on March 24; but all the recruits for the Coast and Bay were detained in Bengal. Since Lally's arrival, the necessity of assembling the English forces on the Madras Coast has been urged on the Bengal and Bombay Committees. If the French succeed here, they will be able to throw their entire force against either Presidency.

On April 30, 1758, the Nawab's debt was 12,68,462 Pags.—an increase of 76,738. This was due to Adlercron's 2 months' campaign and the cost of maintaining garrisons, while little has been received of the Nawab's 8 lakhs assignment since the last half-yearly payment. It is now in arrears to the extent of 6,85,010 Rs. Of this Linga Chetti is security for 93,750 Rs. which will be made good, but there will be great difficulty about the rest. On April 27, the Nawab proposed to provide 1,92,000 Rs. by orders on the renters, and 1,08,000 Rs. in grain at Trichinopoly. But he had already borrowed 2 lakhs in return for orders on the amaldars; some of these paid but others declared that they had paid the full rent so that the orders realized only 30,490 Rs. The present situation is as follows:—

	RS.
The rents of the countries mortgaged by the Nawab	7,00,004
The rents of the countries in the Nawab's hands.	12,71,712
The rents of the countries not possessed by the French but are so unsettled that expenses exceeded revenues	16,60,676
Total ...	36,32,392

In Karunguli, etc., valued at 1,60,676 Rs. the collections rather exceeded the expenses. But as it lies midway between Madras and Pondichery, the rents cannot be regularly collected. Srirangam, valued at 5,00,000 Rs. has lately been recovered from the enemy, but no collections have yet been received. In Madura and Tinnevelly valued at 10,00,000 Rs. large forces have had to be maintained and the revenues have been so wasted by Mahfuz Khan and the poligars that the expenses have exceeded the collections. Yusuf Khan's accounts show a balance due to him of 33,874 Pags. and 1,18,012 Rs. The arrears of 3,93,000 Rs. have been cleared off, but the whole amount received into the Company's treasury since the countries were let to Thitharappa Mudali is only 1,30,000. Rs. The Mudali's brother has come here to settle accounts. The Nawab represented that when he promised 8 lakhs to the Company 3 years ago, his revenues were 17 lakhs. As they are now reduced to 12,71,711, he cannot possibly assign more than 3 lakhs. He has however been persuaded to assign 5 lakhs out of the Arcot revenues, on condition of his managing Karunguli and Contested Districts. He has further given a security bond of Sambudas for 4 out of the 5 lakhs, and promises that the other lakh shall be punctually paid. In consequence of the difficulty of maintaining order in such distant countries as Madura and Tinnevelly, and to stop the heavy expense at Trichinopoly, the Nawab has been persuaded to proceed thither and take over the management of Trichinopoly, Srirangam, Madura and Tinnevelly, from the revenues of which he promises a reasonable assignment. He intends to set out in a few days. He will take over as many sepoys as he needs and send the rest to Madras. The Tirupati rent has been regularly paid; the principal collection there is now beginning, and it is hoped will not be interrupted by the French. The Chingleput lease has expired and remains at present under the management of the old renter.

Mahfuz Khan continues plundering the Tinnevelly country under the protection of Pulithevar, the Poligar. Najib-ul-lah Khan is at Nellore, which he has surrendered to the French. Abd-ul Wahab Khan, who some months ago set himself up as independent at Chittoor and Chandragiri, has asked for cowles from the Nawab and the President, on condition of his submission. The cowles have been sent; but the result is uncertain. An intercepted letter from Bussy of last March reveals violent disputes between Salabat Jang and Nizam Ali. Bussy wrote that he had put it out of Nizam

Ali's power to do any more mischief. Nevertheless soon after quarrels broke out again and before Salabat Jang left Aurangabad, Nizam Ali retired with a large force to Burhanpur.[1] He is now said to have become the master of much of the Aurangabad country. The Marathas, having again visited Mysore, made terms for 20 lakhs of rupees. Gopalhari, their General, has written of his intention to join us again against the French. He has been urged to come at once, but his assistance cannot be relied on. Orme has received no answer to his letter to Venkata Rao, approved in Private Committee of February 1. Lally's attack on Tanjore will confirm the King in our alliance, so long as we keep Trichinopoly. The Nawab will be escorted thither by 1,000 sepoys. Chanda Sahib's son, Raza Sahib, raised some troops and was marching to join Lally at Tanjore, when the siege of that place was raised. He has since returned to Pondichery.

The Squadron will probably winter at Bombay where the Committee has been desired to provide timber for lower masts and yards.

Lieutenant Balfour of Adlercron's regiment, who came sick from Bengal, goes home by this ship.

Complain of the bad faith of the French. Have been unable to get any satisfaction for the cartel ship. The seizure of the Company's sloop *Marlborough* at Ganjam was due not only to the knavery of the French Chief, but also to the weakness of the Commander and Noble in trusting to his promises. The inhabitants of Cuddalore have not been allowed to remove their goods in spite of the term of capitulation. By the capitulation of Fort St. David, officers, civil and military, were to be exchanged against the Chandernagore prisoners and be allowed meanwhile to come to Madras on parole. The rest of the garrison was to be exchanged against the French prisoners of Trichinopoly and to be sent to Madras or Devikottai as Lally chose. Devikottai being abandoned, we demanded they should be sent to Madras. Lally replied that, as he had resolved to besiege Madras, he need not do so. He refused the officers leave to come to Madras on parole, and has done nothing about the exchange of the rest. The French are reported to be receiving all supplies they need from Bengal. A large Dutch Company's ship, the *Haarlem*, bound to Batavia from Negapatam with 2,20,000 Rs. gold and Japanese copper, has been seized by

[1] 150 miles north of Aurangabad.

the French fleet at Pondichery. The French allege that this is in reprisal for the capture of their Mauritius snow which they say was taken under the guns at Negapatam. Have appointed John Whitehill, Resident at Sadras, to procure intelligence, on the same terms as the residents at Negapatam and Pulicat.

Supplement.—Caillaud has been promoted Major, as Polier's exchange is uncertain; and in any case Lawrence will need 2 field officers if Madras is besieged. The Secret Committee's recommendations and the Madras Committee's knowledge of Caillaud's ability determined the choice. He will be able to do better service as Major whether at Trichinopoly or Madras, as at the former place there is one and at the latter two captains senior to him. The promotion was made immediately as the annoyance of the superseded captains will be less injurious now than when either Trichinopoly or Madras was actually besieged. The President however considered that the promotions should have been delayed. On the 14th the *Pitt* arrived with the despatches of November 11 and December 23, 1757. The business of the Nawab's debt has been transferred to the President and Council. Draper with 120 men arrived by the *Pitt* which parted with the rest of the fleet off Madeira. The French fleet which sailed September 3 is supposed to have gone to the Islands. The *Pitt* saw 3 ships lying in the harbour of St. Jago which he believed to be French. This belief is strengthened by the fact that the Mauritius sloop lately taken was bringing the packets of the *Expedition* frigate from Europe. Admiral Pocock put in here September 25 and is taking in water etc., for his voyage to Bombay. He brought up Caillaud with 230 men from Trichinopoly. He will be requested to leave his marines here. The French have occupied Karunguli, Salavakkam and Tiruvattur and are apparently preparing to besiege Arcot.

Postscript.—Civil and military officers have been exchanged; but Lally demands that the French prisoners shall first be sent to Pondichery, when he will send an equal number to Madras; but he might later find a pretext for sending none, or merely send invalids. His proposal cannot be accepted. The Bengal Committee has determined to send 300 or 400 Europeans under Colonel Forde to Vizagapatam to join Ananda Razu and other Rajas hostile to the French, and if possible to attack Masulipatam. The French have occupied Arcot, Tirupati and Conjeeveram. The Squadron sails to-night. Pocock leaves 100 marines in the garrison.

DESPATCH FROM GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, NOVEMBER 2, 1758. [*Military Despatches to England, Vol. 2, pp.* 50—52 (*copy* 2½ *pp.*)]

This letter is written by the President and Council in consequence of the last commands of the Secret Committee. This goes by ship to Basra. Recapitulatory. Almost the whole French force is collected at Wandiwash and Karunguli, and said to be designed first against Chingleput and then Madras. Believe they have 1,500 to 2,000 more than the English. Since a ship from the Islands reached Pondichery, October 18, there have been rumours of the despatch of 3 King's and 7 Company's ships from France, expected to arrive on the Coast next March with D'Aché's Squadron Choiseuil, and Aiguille, Chefs d'Escadre, are on board. D'Aché is said to have been made Lieutenant-General. The *London* arrived here October 12. She left 2 men-of-war and 6 Indiamen at Madagascar, August 17. The *Warren* is believed to have put into St. Jago. Pocock sailed for Bombay, October 11. As Bussy with most of the French forces to the northward has joined Lally, it is hoped that the expedition from Bengal will succeed. According to the news from Bengal of October 5, the expedition was to sail next day.

DESPATCH FROM GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 21, 1759. [*Military Despatches to England, Vol. 2, pp.* 53—57 (*copy* 4½ *pp.*)]

Fort St. George was invested on December 12, 1758, by the whole of Lally's forces. The only reinforcements then received from Europe were a small part of Draper's by the *Pitt* and *London*. Although the *Hardwicke* and *Warren* received intelligence at Ceylon of Lally's arrival in India and the fall of Fort St. David, which should have 'spurr'd on any good Man to have run all risks to have thrown succours into this your principal settlement, whether consigned here or not,' nevertheless the commanders, though bound here, sailed directly to Bengal. Tiddeman, with the ships under him, proceeded from Madagascar to Bombay for reasons unknown. Pocock's squadron was so weak that he could only leave here 100 marines. So we were left with only 1,100 Europeans in garrison—far too few to meet over 3,000 in the open field. Hence the necessity for standing a siege.

The bravery and endurance of King's and Company's officers and men cannot be too much commended, as they 'underwent perhaps more fatigue than has fallen to the lot of almost any garrison.' 26 officers and 400 men were killed and wounded. Officers killed

Major Polier; Captains Hume, Monchanin, Bilhock and Brooke; Lieutenants Robson, Little and Bates; and Ensigns Barnes, Chace, Schomberg and Belton. The enemy opened 3 batteries January 6; their maximum fire was from 26 guns and 9 mortars. Their attack was on the north, as the Black Town afforded them cover from which to open the Royal battery at 450 yards. A few days later, they opened other batteries enfilading all the northern side. They advanced by sap to 30 yards from the crest of the glacis, where they raised a battery against the right face of the north ravelin; but this was ill-constructed and their cannon destroyed by our fire as often as they opened their embrasures. Their next battery on the crest of the glacis proved no better. None of our defences have been destroyed. Every disabled gun has been replaced and the damaged works repaired. Our fire therefore was so superior that they were forced to retire to the Royal Battery after springing a mine which opened the counterscarp of the ditch before the salient angle of the demi-bastion, which by that time was actually breached; but palisades had been erected before the enemy could interrupt its repair by musketry fire.

An army of observation, consisting of 50 Europeans from Chingleput, a large body of sepoys from Trichinopoly, and some country horse, commanded first by Preston and then by Caillaud jointly with Yusuf Khan, the Commandant of the sepoys, proved of great service by distracting the enemy, who four times sent large detachments against them unsuccessfully. On February 15, Caillaud being on the Pondichery road to cut off convoys, intercepted a letter from Lally to de Leyrit, dated February 14, showing that he despaired of success and had resolved to burn the Black Town. But February 16, the *Queenborough* and *Revenge* with 4 China ships, appearing, he removed next morning destroying the powder-mills in his march by Egmore, but leaving the Black Town intact. We had over 20 heavy cannon disabled, but our fire destroyed no less than 33 of the enemy's. They had few serviceable guns left when they retired. At last they were firing from only 4 guns and 1 mortar and these are believed to have been buried. One has been dug up. Desire a large supply of stores as soon as possible, as the other presidencies will hardly be able to replace our stock. Six companies of Draper's arrived in a healthy state by the *Queenborough* and 5 other ships, under Captain Kempenfelt. The *Shaftesbury*, with sick on board, arrived 3 weeks earlier under Captain Inglis. Although he found the place besieged with 2 French ships at anchor, he stood in and sent

notice of the near approach of succour, and desired the Governor's orders. The enemy's ships, after attempting to drive ashore or seize her, sailed for Pondichery. Although the *Shaftesbury* had suffered greatly by the enemy's batteries, Inglis took on board an officer with a detachment of marine and drove away a French frigate which had reached St. Thomé with supply of stores. Will write in greater detail and transmit the siege journal[1] by the *Warren* hourly expected from Bengal. This goes in triplicate to Bombay, Anjengo and Bengal, to be forwarded by all opportunities that offer. The French are said to be marching from Tiruppasur towards Conjeeveram. We have formed a camp on the Choultry Plain and shall in a few days be ready to take the field.

DESPATCH FROM GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, APRIL 16, 1759. [*Military Despatches to England, Vol. 2, pp.* 58–59 (*copy*, 1½ *pp.*)]

Colonel Draper (the bearer of this letter), finding the climate disagrees with him, is sailing on the *Winchelsea*. Much regret the loss of his services. The zeal and capacity he displayed in the siege demand the Company's thanks. Suggest that his advice be taken concerning officers entertained for service in India. Captain Jasper is also returning. He distinguished himself much, especially by volunteering to embark on a small vessel in order to sieze a French frigate coming hither from Pondichery, which would probably have been taken but for an accident which prevented Jasper's vessel from sailing.

DESPATCH FROM GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, JUNE 28, 1759. [*Military Despatches to England, Vol. 2, pp.* 60–65 (*copy*, 6 *pp.*)]

Cite despatch of February 21, 1759. Lally's loss at the siege was so considerable that we thought it wise, being reinforced with Draper's Regiment to attempt to bring on an action while the enemy were still dispirited with their failure. But the French would not give battle. After 3 months' manœuvering, they cantoned some of their troops at Wandiwash and Chetpattu and withdrew the rest to Pondichery, on which we cantoned at Conjeeveram and Chingleput. The only fruit of the campaign has been the recovery of the Conjeeveram and Tiruppasur countries. Forde's expedition succeeded beyond expectation. After defeating the French near Rajahmundry December 7, 1758, he was prevented

[1] Printed in the Records of Fort St. George.

from investing Masulipatam, by differences with the Raja, until March 7. On the night of April 7-8, he took it by assault, making the Marquis de Conflans and the whole garrison prisoners—no less than 500 Europeans including 100 officers and officials, a number exceeding that of the attacking army. Two ships from Pondichery with reinforcements anchored there 8 days later under Moracin, the former Governor. He afterwards proceeded to Ganjam, hoping to raise fresh opposition by means of a disaffected Raja there. But we hear he has failed and re-embarked. News from Bengal of Clive's march to Patna and the repulse of the Shah Zada. Pocock anchored off Negapatam, April 30, in order to meet the French on their first appearance. His old ships have been well refitted at Bombay. The situation is better than had been expected in view of the great forces sent out by the French. Lists received from Negapatam of the French ships at the Cape last February, and of those at the French Islands, show the French squadron as much stronger than Pocock's, but we hope everything from his bravery and good conduct. The French reported at the Cape that they were bringing Lally 2,000 more men. Some think it may be half as many, and some not even that. In any case, we have received powder and guns from Bengal and Bombay, and the works are as good as before the siege. But as the safety of all your possessions in India depends on the fate of Madras which is the barrier the enemy must first force, have desired Forde to march hither with all his troops and prisoners, leaving 400 or 500 sepoys under Andrews to collect the rents that may have been acquired by the treaty Forde has made with Salabat Jang. The revenues of Masulipatam are believed to be consid erable. Advise that, at the conclusion of Peace, we should at least insist on the possessions and privileges at Divi and Masulipatam granted by Farrukh Siyar. Salabat Jang's treaty with Forde cancels his grants to the French and assigns Masulipatam with its dependencies to the Company. Shall request Clive to obtain a farman for this from the Moghal, so that the Company may be able to demand a confirmation of the whole by the Treaty of Peace. In procuring confirmation of as large possessions as possible in the Arcot province as a security for the Nawab's debt, suggest that such should be close to the Company's settlements. Trichinopoly, Madura and Tinnevelly have remained in our hands throughout the war. Srirangam which was held by the French is now ours. It was a dependency of Trichinopoly. The French claims to it should not be admitted. Wynch and Palk may be very useful in discussing these matters.

Without desiring to complain, or to possess more authority than necessary we must observe that 'with the best of men, if there is a division of authority, affairs cannot be properly conducted and more particularly all such as come under the denomination of military affairs.' While war continues in India, all forces must be entirely under the Company's government. It is impossible to separate civil and military affairs. Lawrence has resigned on account of his age and sails on the *Warren*. Colonel Draper went home on the *Winchelsea* by way of China, and the command is now with Major Brereton who is himself out of order. 'By accidents like these, a considerable share in the management of your affairs may fall into the hands of people unacquainted with the methods of those affairs and the nature of the Government of this Country.' The news received from the Cape will have already been communicated to the Company by Wynch's letters and by Wynch's and Palk's reports in person. Much regret the capture of the *Grantham*. Advice from Negapatam says that the *Ilchester*, homeward bound from Bengal, put into the Cape dismasted after the French ships had gone. As the last of these sailed March 26, expect them soon on the Coast. As Pocock desires some of the Company's ships to be added to his squadron in view of the enemy's great number of frigates, the *Duke of Dorset* and *Stretham* are being unladed and will be sent to Pocock. Five ships have been despatched to Canton; and the sixth will be despatched as soon as she arrives from Batavia. Send this to Bombay and will forward other copies by all opportunities.

DESPATCH FROM GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 28, 1759. [*Military Despatches to England, Vol.* 2, *pp.* 66—79 (*copy*, 14 *pp.*)]

Cite despatch of the Select Committee to the Secret Committee, dated October 5, 1758. Soon after, it was resolved, in consequence of the despatch from the Secret Committee, November 11, 1757, to transact all business transacted by the whole Council in two distinct departments.[1] Thus all measures requiring secrecy pass through one office only, in which all employees are sworn to secrecy. The loss of the *Grantham's* despatch will have been in great measure supplied by the despatches of October 2, and November 2, 1758. Cite subsequent despatches of February 21

[1] Military Consultations, October 25, 1758.

and June 28, 1759. Now transmit the siege journal. The behaviour of the civil servants and inhabitants who attended to delivering out stores in places as dangerous as the ramparts, and took up arms on all general alarms, was as praiseworthy as that of the military. It is surprising that the French fleet has not yet appeared. They are reported to have procured only three months' provisions at the Cape. On the Dutch report of 12 ships in Tuticorin Bay, Pocock sailed from Negapatam June 30, to cruise for them off Fryar's Hood. Propose to send the *Royal George* to join Pocock. This and the two other Company's ships will be detained till the French fleet appears or intelligence regarding them is received. The English and French armies are still cantoned as reported June 28; but the French sent out a detachment from Pondichery which took Tyagar on July 5. A supply of ammunition, etc., was on its way from Trichinopoly under the convoy of Captain Lieutenant Raillard consisting of 40 Europeans (mostly deserters), some sepoys and a body of the Nawab's horse. The party was cut off through the ill-behaviour of the horse, and Raillard killed himself in despair at his failure. Tyagar covered the southward parts of the Srirangam country, the revenues of which had supplied the charges of the Trichinopoly garrison for some months. Have sent thither a small reinforcement of Europeans by Negapatam in the hope of our keeping clear of the enemy. Have recently received advice of 100 recruits and 50 of Coote's men coming out. Are in daily hopes of seeing the China and Madeira ships. The reinforcements sent by them enable us to hope great success in the present discontented condition of the French troops. They have been so long unpaid that 6 days ago, Lally's regiment mutinied, and marched 2 or 3 miles from Chetpattu to join our army at Conjeeveram, but most of them were induced to return by the promises and entreaties of their officers. Seventy-three however have deserted to Conjeeveram and more are likely to follow. Our greatest danger is lack of money. We depend on Bengal and Bombay for supplies to make good the usual importation from Europe. Are greatly concerned at the heavy charges involved by camp, garrisons, fortifications and repairs. The first of these (and the largest) has been placed to the Nawab's account, because, although occasioned by the war between England and France, it may be considered as incurred for the defence of the Carnatic and therefore the Carnatic should be responsible, 'which is the true meaning of the Nabob's account upon your books." The last 18 months' expenses on that account have been so large

and the revenues so reduced by the incursions of the French army that the debt stands higher than ever. The march of Yusuf Khan with all his Indian troops, including some of the Tanjore and Tondiman's forces, and Caillaud's march with the other party of Tanjore horse, increased our expenditure; but their services, when joined by Preston from the Chingleput garrison, were so essential in distracting the enemy from the siege that the cost was fully justified. Madura and Tinnevelly have been let for one year from July 1759 to Yusuf Khan for 5,00,000 Rs. net. If Mahfuz Khan and the poligars could be reduced, these provinces would be worth twice as much. Other revenues are reckoned as follows:—

	RS.
Tirupati	2,50,000
Tiruppasur	2,00,400
Conjeeveram	1,50,000
Chingleput	1,00,000
Covelong	30,000
Manimangalam	40,000
Seven Maganams	60,000
And further Najib-ul-lah-Khan at Nellore has agreed to pay	1,10,000
Or in all	14,40,000

This is exclusive of Poonamallee, St Thomé and the Madras revenues. None of these will be received unless we can protect these countries from the enemy; but if we can drive the enemy into their garrisons, our revenues will be increased by the acquisition of more countries. No allowance has been made for the Masulipatam revenues, as their amount and Forde's disposal of them, are unknown. The old Madura and Tinnevelly accounts of Yusuf Khan and Thitharappa Mudali have been carefully examined by the Committee of Accounts, whose report is now transmitted. The Committee justly urges the need of a Paymaster and Commissary to muster and pay every large body of troops. This would require 10 covenanted servants. At present only two can be spared, who are always with the army. If the Company would send out a sufficient number to enable the Committee's recommendations to be put in practice, it would certainly produce a great saving. All the hopes of covenanted servants depend on the Company's success. They are therefore more likely than any other class of men to attend to its interests. 'We perceive with much concern that a very different notion prevails with your honours. You place more

confidence in your military officers, your Engineer, nay in every private merchant, than in your covenanted servants whom you expressly forbid to Contract for or be concerned in furnishing any sort of supply to the Company.' In consequence of the Company's orders, a new contract has been made with George Mackay for supplying the army with draft and carriage bullocks, men and provisions—at 4 fanams a day for men, 6½ a day for draft bullocks, and 4½ a day for carriage bullocks. These were the best terms offered. The Nawab, who was sent to Trichinopoly *via* Negapatam after we were invested, is still there collecting those revenues and himself paying the garrison. Have been obliged to entertain 300 country horse to prevent the enemy's cavalry from cutting up convoys and making raids. They can be of no other service; more than once 100 of them have fled before a single troop of the French horse; and this has given the enemy such an advantage that the field officers say that an equal number of Europeans must be provided. This has been resolved on as soon as suitable horses can be got. Forty Hussars have already deserted from the enemy and have been of great service, while they cost no more than country horse. The latter will be discharged in proportion as Europeans are mounted. The report that Moracin left Ganjam for the Deccan was groundless. His men were still at Ganjam on June 12. He was still trying to persuade the Raja to join him, but without money or ammunition; he will meet with few friends. News from Clive by means of Colonel Forde that the Shah Zada had been deserted by most of his followers. Resolve therefore to detain all the reinforcements which may arrive until receiving the opinion of the Bengal Council as to the best measures to be taken. This cannot endanger Calcutta as the enemy are believed to have few troops on their expected ships and would therefore have first to call at Pondichery if they decided to carry the war into Bengal. Three hundred of the French prisoners at Trichinopoly have been exchanged. We still have 70 there and the same number at Madras. The enemy have about 300 of ours. The exchange may be completed when the Masulipatam prisoners arrive, for whom an officer with an escort of sepoys and horse has been sent. Count d'Estaing, taken prisoner December 14, has gone on parole to Europe where he is to surrender himself to His Majesty. We have no officer of equal rank to exchange, and Lally refused to give the number of private men we asked. As he is the most

capable of Lally's officers, his departure for Europe is a good thing. News from Herbert at Batavia of a projected Dutch expedition to Bengal. If this be confirmed, we shall immediately send Clive a reinforcement. When Forde was besieging Masulipatam, Salabat Jang came within about 40 miles of it waiting 'like a true Eastern politician.' Forde's success there and Lally's failure at Madras determined him to make a treaty with us. Had events been otherwise, he would doubtless have ordered his people to expel us from the Circars. Meanwhile Nizam Ali marched from Aurangabad to Hyderabad, and Salabat Jang returned hither to meet his brother. After some messages, they accommodated their differences and joined forces. Basalat Jang departed with a detachment of French left by Bussy at Golconda and has crossed the Kistna. He is believed to have designs on Nellore, but it is not likely that he will long keep his party together. In spite of our requests and offers of money, neither Balaji Rao's General in Mysore nor Morari Rao would move to our help so long as Lally was before Madras. As soon as the siege was raised, both professed themselves ready to join us, but 'we were then as resolved not to part with your money as they were before to keep out of danger.' Tanjore and Tondiman were our most steady allies. Being so much connected with Trichinopoly, they must support the party which possesses that fort. The Danish Government of Tranquebar has been changed by the removal of Krog from the chair. We hope they will now show less partiality to the French. Lawrence sails by this ship, being too much oppressed by infirmity of age to serve any longer with his usual activity. We cannot add to the Company's sense of his zeal and attachment. He has drawn his own character in his letter to the Council of June 25. We can vouch for the sincerity and truth of his sentiments. An attack of fever gave Draper so utter a disgust to the country that he would stay here no longer. His departure is much regretted. 'We however begin to think it is impossible for the best disposed man in the world to govern himself properly in that state of independent authority the King's officers are, or imagine they are vested with in this country.' Cite letter received from Major Monson, Military Consultations July 2. Copy is sent as a striking instance of the truth that business cannot be well conducted by a divided Government. Monson is a man of great politeness and of a moderate even temper, and we believe was misinformed of facts, most of which happened

while Brereton was in command. He was also a little suspicious that the Council aimed at reducing the authority of the King's officers. We shall of course to the utmost of our power avoid such discussions.

DESPATCH FROM GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, AUGUST 1, 1759. [*Military Despatches to England, Vol.* 2, *pp.* 80—83 (*copy* 3½ *pp.*)]

Several times have represented the evils of the present division of military authority or rather its total defect in your government. In case former representations have been too general, now address the Company specifically on these matters. Soon after Draper and Brereton arrived, Caillaud, promoted Major 2 or 3 months before, arrived with part of the Trichinopoly garrison. The King's officers, having heard of the Company's disapproval of Killpatrick's promotion and its declaration that it would reserve to itself promotion to field rank, questioned the validity of Caillaud's rank; and before it was admitted, the Council's powers were called for and debated on by officers who at length admitted them apparently more from respect for Caillaud's merits than from a conviction of the Council's authority. The officers in general seem to believe that on Adlercron's recall, his extensive powers devolved undiminished on the next King's officer. No fresh instructions having been issued, it is uncertain if this was really intended or whether his power of authorizing general courts-martial, etc., has fallen to the Governor and Council. For the sake of harmony we have not raised the point, and Colonel Lawrence, Colonel Draper and Major Brereton have exercised the full powers. An unlucky accident or two might give them to a young Captain. The result of such independent authority is that the Chief officer when in the field may not proceed immediately with the Council's plans if he disapproves of them, and the inferior King's officer on separate command may forward the Council's orders to the Commander-in-chief for his confirmation. Desire the Company to consider means for remedying this. If His Majesty has vested in the Company the sovereignty over all their settlements and colonies, the President and Council must have authority over all employed there. It would be for the good of the service if the distinction between the King's and Company's officers could be removed. It is mortifying for a Captain of many years' standing to be superseded by a man only newly promoted from lieutenant,

The French Company's officers have brevets to give them rank with the King's officers in the East Indies only on the ground that those who are employed upon one service should be as near as possible on an equality.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC. LONDON, NOVEMBER 1, 1758. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol. 62, pp.* 31–45 (*copy* 15 *pp.*)]

Cite despatch of July 5, 1758. None of the homeward shipping has yet arrived. This goes by the *Duke of Dorset*. Have decided to send no treasure to India this season. The material part of this despatch is to be communicated to Bombay and Bengal Members of the Secret Committee. The war with France continues with vigour. The French Navy, being greatly reduced, is almost confined to their ports. Their only efforts of consequence seem to be directed to the East Indies. Believe that the early intelligence sent of the expedition under D'Aché and Lally, and their reported heavy losses by sickness, will prevent their doing much. Recent intelligence states that in May last four large French ships were at Ilha Grande in Brazil, being part of the 11 that sailed from France. These four were waiting for the remaining ships. The number of troops on board is unknown. Believe that the Company's application to the Minister to reinforce His Majesty's Squadron in the East Indies will be complied with as far as the general service allows. Intend to send as many recruits as possible this season in spite of the great difficulty of raising them, at least 60 by each ship. The outward freighted shipping of this season consists of four ships (the *Duke of Dorset*, *Calcutta*, *Newship*, and *Stormont*) for the Coast and Bay, six for Madras and China and 11 others. Besides these, are despatching the *Royal George*, 400 tons, 80 men and 20 guns, lately built on the Company's account. Some advice ships will also be sent out. One Coast and Bay vessel is now under despatch. The Coast and China ships will be despatched at the end of November, the Madeira Coast and Bay ship about the middle of December, and others in the beginning of February. This information will enable the Council to judge the probable arrival of ships. Lists of shipping and free merchants will be sent as usual. A considerable part of the tonnage will be taken up by recruits and extraordinary quantities of military, etc., stores. The Ministry are sending out 273 tons of naval and 310 of victualling stores for the Squadron, and 25 tons of clothing for Draper's battalion. The Company's

military stores for Madras amount to 580 tons. The export will consist of woollen goods, copper, lead and iron. Less lead and iron are sent than usual, rather with a view to supply the settlement than for purposes of trade. As regards woollen goods, send to Madras 630 bales of cloth, 2 bales of flannel for cartridges; to Bengal 832 bales of cloth, 162 of long ells of 20 pieces each, 200 of the same of 10 pieces each, and 1 bale of flannel for cartridges; to Bombay 1,357 bales of cloth, 150 of long ells of 20 pieces each; for Persia 839 bales of cloth and 250 of long ells of 10 pieces each; for China, 355 bales of cloth, 375 of long ells of 20 pieces each and 7 bales of Brusselets. The Madeira ship will take in 350 pipes to be equally divided between Bengal and Madras. If really necessary, 50 pipes of the Bengal consignment may be detained. Are sending no treasure on account of the danger we apprehended from the numerous French ships in the Indian seas. Moreover from the estimate of the Madras quick stock received by the *Prince Henry* packet and the supplies since sent, it appears that Madras can support itself until next season's shipping arrives in 1760. However we fear that a much larger amount than estimated may have been advanced on the Nawab's account. Are now despatching the *Diligent* snow, express to Bombay, as we believe that Presidency can meet all bills you may wish to draw on it. Besides this Bengal can also furnish some, for early last year they reported that they would require no supplies from England, and since then have drawn upon us for £ 1,67,000 and bills for a larger amount are thought to be on the way. The immense sum owed by the Nawab is a weight too heavy for the Company to support much longer. In case the Company's vessel to Bombay should miscarry, the duplicate[1] of the Company's despatch thither is now sent to Madras to be forwarded. The Company's estimate presumes that all but two of the ships taken up will be despatched homewards the season of arrival. In the present situation, it is impossible to give particular directions as to the quantity or value of their cargoes. Surplus tonnage should be as equally distributed as may be. Saltpetre is much needed, so tonnage can be made up with that if necessary, and as much should be laded on each ship as she can carry without rendering her unfit for defence. To avoid the heavy expense of war demurrage, ships may be returned the season of their arrival with even 100 tons at dead freight. In

[1] *Public Despatches from England*, vol. 62, pp. 149—151.

case neither Bombay nor Bengal can supply Madras with money, the Council may draw bills on England on the usual terms to as large an amount as may be necessary. Organization of the Canton supracargoes. Directions regarding Coast and China ships, which are to be sent on from Madras as quickly as possible. The silver consigned to China should be looked upon as 'sacred' and should not be used on any account whatsoever, with the exception that if Madras cannot pay for Coast goods provided for China, the amount may be taken out of the China treasure. The importance of the China trade is such that ships which cannot be sent home for want of goods, may be consigned to Canton with a cargo amounting to at least [£]20,000. Arrangements have been made to have some resident supracargoes at Canton. Sumatra trade. In order to prevent commanders carrying unlicensed passengers, they are now instructed to send lists of all passengers to the Company before their final departure from England and to the Governor and Council on arrival. On their return, they are to send to the Company lists of their homeward passengers. Commanders must therefore be requested to furnish lists of the passengers from Europe which are to be carefully transmitted. Entertainment of Richard Wilder to improve the silk trade in Bengal and China. The *Diligent* snow, Peter Macleshin, commander, express to Bombay, will be sent on to Madras for service on that Coast. Macleshin brought home the news of the revolution in Bengal of 1757; and as a reward, has been continued in the command of this ship until he can be better provided for. She was originally built at Bombay, but an upper deck has been added to her in England. Macleshin is to be appointed to the command of the Company's ship, the *Duke*, on the decease or removal of Captain Powney or whoever may now command her. Send out as writers this season John Nodes, Francis Jourdan, Josiah Hayward, Samuel Peake, Augustus de Morgan and Peter Perring; and cadets for Madras, William Thomson and John Agey. The recruits and cadets on this ship are to be sent on to Bengal.

Appended are (1) extracts of Company's despatches to Bengal, dated March 25, 1757 and March 3, 1758, relating to Richard Wilder (pp. 143—146); (2) copy of Company's instructions to the commanders of shipping (p. 147); (3) extract of Company's despatch to Bombay, dated November 1, 1758 (pp. 149—151); (4) copy of Company's agreement with John Wilder, dated March 25, 1757 (pp. 161—165).

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC. LONDON, JANUARY 23, 1759. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 62, *pp.* 57—85 (*original,* 29 *pp.*)]

Cite despatch of November 1, 1758. Acknowledge the receipt on November 2 of the general despatch, dated March 13, and of separate despatches, dated January 17 and March 13, 1758, together with letters from Pigot, Lawrence and Call.

The Coast and Bay ship, the *Duke of Dorset,* with others sailed November 20, 1758. On July 16, His Majesty's ship the *Colchester* sailed from St. Helena homewards with 3 Coast and Bay ships, 2 from Madras and Sumatra and 6 others most of which reached Ireland October 25. All ultimately reached England safely though one was taken by and retaken from the French. Other shipping news. The reinforcements for His Majesty's Squadron are intended to leave England in the middle of February. The Coast and Bay ships will then be despatched. His Majesty will also grant the Company a battalion, 1,000 strong, which we intend to be employed in Bengal—200 will proceed on the men-of-war, and the rest on Company's ships. In order to provide accommodation for so many men, an additional ship has been taken up to be disposed of in the same way as *Hardwicke* and *Dodington* in 1754 and 1755. The Coast and China ships are now under despatch together with the Madeira ship and the *Royal George.* They carry part of the King's troops and the Company's Madras recruits. Usual orders for despatch of China ships. Owing to the number of men to be sent out, the Madeira ship will bring only 200 pipes unless more can conveniently be stowed. Revoke the permission to detain 50 pipes over and above the consignment. The Madeira ship and the *Royal George* are to be sent on to Bengal with as many King's troops as possible. The *Royal George* is to be employed at any of the settlements as may seem best. She should be refitted at the Company's expense. One principal object is that she may bring home early intelligence, but as she is large enough to carry cargo sufficient to cover the expenses of the voyage, a cargo should be provided for her in inverse proportion to the risks she is likely to run. The accounts of damages, etc., with commanders of ships are to be adjusted at the current rate of exchange allowed to covenanted servants, instead of at 8 s. a pagoda. Urge the despatch of as many ships as possible in the season of arrival. A new Regulation has been made limiting the salutes fired by the Company's ships. Enclose printed copy thereof [*missing*]. As the arrival of shipping in the

Thames is often delayed on account of the war, and as under present orders, packets of books are not delivered until the shipping arrives there, new orders are to be given to every commander, so long as the war continues, to forward the book packets as well as the others from the first port he touches in the United Kingdom.

Our last advices received from Bengal and Bombay confirmed the Company's resolve to send out no treasure except to China and to Sumatra. There must be such a flowing cash in Bengal that Madras can receive thence all the assistance it needs. The heavy drafts made on the Company have caused such difficulties that the only profitable trade, i.e., the trade to China will be starved unless Madras can render seasonable assistance. Instead of the usual quantity of treasure, have been able to lade on the China ships only 10 chests each. Depend upon Madras to add 10 chests more (of £1,000 each) on each ship; and if this can be increased to 30 chests *per* ship, the Company will have a lively sense of the service rendered; in case no treasure is immediately ready, but some is expected later, one or two of the China ships may be detained, their treasure being put aboard other vessels. As payment of money into the Company's cash at Canton for bills of exchange on the Company, may benefit both the Company and private persons, the Canton supracargoes have been authorised to receive any sum up to £50,000 in return for bills of exchange at 90 days' sight at 6*s.* 8*d.* a tael, or if that should not be sufficiently attractive, at 5*s.* the Spanish dollar (100 dollars weigh 88 oz. 13 dwts.). Private persons may be glad to embrace this opportunity of remitting money home. Medicines are to be supplied as follows:—6/10ths by Silvanus and Timothy Bevan, 3/10ths by Alexander Johnston and Co., and 1/10th by the Company of Apothecaries. Complain that 2 sets of indents for stores for the service of 1759 have been received, the second of which is apparently neither a duplicate nor an addition to the other, so that the Company cannot tell what is really wanted. Indents for lead and iron cannot be fully complied with, owing to the large quantity of military stores to be sent out. Have directed the Bengal Council to supply Madras with the large anchors indented for. 180 barrels of gunpowder consigned to Bengal must be forwarded. The Council at St. Helena complain that the rice sent was so bad as to be fit only to feed hogs and poultry. Disappointments of this sort especially in time of war might produce the worst consequences. They also complain that the wax candles sent are hardly fit for use.

Send list of investments for the next season. Late arrival of the ships has rendered it less detailed than could be wished, but the general directions are reasonably complete. Steps must be taken to secure large supplies of saltpetre from Bengal. The best redwood for England is the solid or young wood, samples of which are now sent. Particular regard should be had to the size, as what the workmen who rasp it call 'handy wood' always fetches most. In future, require tabular statements showing the quantity of each article ordered by the Company, the quantity supplied, and reasons for any deviations from the Company's orders.

Trust that Pocock and Steevens will be able to prevent the French from receiving any reinforcement and that in any case the latter will not have been able to do much harm. Regarding the French ships reported from Brazil last May, it has since been learnt that the fleet consisted of 12 ships—3 men-of-war from 60 to 70 guns each, 6 Company's ships laden for the Islands, and 1 for China, armed with 18 to 30 guns, together with 2 others believed to have belonged to the Company—the whole under the command of De Laquelle.[1] Ten of these called at Rio de Janeiro and Isla Grande in a sickly condition. They were men-of-war, *Le Minotaur*, *L'Actif*, *Le Lustre*, and Company's ships *Le Comte*, *D'Argenson*, *Le Bourbon*, *Neptune*, *L'Elephant*, *La Fortune*, *La Baleine* and *La Fidelle*. The last 3 had sailed before June 30. No land forces are reported on board. Do not know what shipping the French intend for India this season, but consider that their present low condition will prevent them from doing much. Approve the Council's conduct regarding the cartel ship. Regret that the Nawab's debt by the last statement was lowered by only 17,777 Pags., but cannot lay this to any neglect of Council. The settlement at the Negrais has been so expensive and promises so little advantage that unless it has been already withdrawn, this should be done at once, leaving not more than 3 or 4 servants to hoist the flag, merely to keep up our right. Agree that the profits from the settlements in the Pegu country will not pay their charges. In regard to the land granted at Persaim, 3 or 4 persons may be kept there to hoist the flag as at the Negrais.

Are pleased at the condition in which Fort St. George is reported to be. Call has furnished a suitable account of its present condition, his projects, and the way in which they will be executed.

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[1] Froger de l'Eguille. *See* Lacour-Gayet, *La Marine Militaire Sous Loius XV*, p. 405.

Observe, however, that the plan laid down in Brohier's letter of June 7, 1757, has been materially altered. Such alterations always involve additional expense and should be avoided as far as possible. The farms of Poonamallee, St. Thomé and Devikottai may be let like the rest for a term of 5 years, if it will really be to the Company's advantage. As the Madras revenues are still so far from meeting the expenses of the presidency, their preservation and increase are earnestly recommended. It is reported that, notwithstanding the Council's abolition of the customs formerly paid to the Chintadripet pagoda, they continued to be privately collected by the late Linga Chetti. If this is the case, his representatives must refund the money, which is to be divided between the Company and Narayanan's creditors.

Writers for Fort St. George proceed by this ship. Trust that an arrangement has been effected with Pondichery for the release of captured officers so that the Company's servants may be able to act again, especially as Fort St. David was so short of people. Although this may be some excuse for the delay in sending the annual papers, it might have been remedied by sending them the necessary assistance. The very being of the Company depends upon the practice of the utmost frugality. Are glad to observe the Council's sense of this. Highly approve the Council's decision not to draw bills on the Company on behalf of the servants, etc., in Bengal. The unaccountable conduct of Fort William and Bombay, who have drawn heavily without sending adequate cargoes, has involved the Company in great difficulties. Even if they had sent cargoes, it would have been impossible in time of war, to raise the necessary sums within 3 months. Besides they neglected the advantage which the market offered of being able to fix their own terms as to the rate of exchange and time of payment, although the Bengal Council did indeed stipulate that their bills should only be payable 12 months after sight, with interest after 90 days. Have accepted all the Bengal and Bombay bills on these terms with interest at 3 *per cent.* The owners of most of the bills have accepted this offer. The Madras bills have been paid as usual. Are informed that some of the Company's Madras servants sent considerable sums to Bombay to be remitted home. If true, it is a 'pitiful evasion' of the Council's decision. In consequence of the scarcely defensible conduct of the Bengal and Bombay Councils, lay down the following standing orders:—(1) No bill of exchange beyond £20,000 in any one year to be granted unless obliged by the needs of the investment or the currency of business; (2) should

so much as £1,00,000 be required in any one year, the money should be borrowed in India if possible; (3) if obliged to draw over £50,000, all bills exceeding that amount must be payable after 12 months without interest, in compensation for which the value of the pagoda or rupee may be suitably raised. Bills of exchange bearing interest have not a creditable appearance. The Madras Council alone seems to have understood the situation. Even when sufficient cargoes are sent home by the same ships as the bills, the Company cannot receive the proceeds of the cargoes by the day the bills fall due. Besides the bills might be tendered and fall due before the ships could be unladed in England. Are seldom in a position to meet large drafts at a short date, especially since extensive fortifications, large garrisons, the Nawab's debts and the detention of large ships, have locked up so much money, for we now have to find cargoes for 20 ships a year with little help from the returns of the preceding year. The Bengal Council seems to think that some persons, especially the coral traders, have a customary right to bills. At Bengal, no special permission is ever granted, although Madras was permitted to accommodate the coral traders, but even there they have no express right. No persons shall be suffered to pay money into the Company's cash beyond what the Company's occasions absolutely require. On the application of Charles Whitehill, an old servant of the Company, his son John Whitehill, entertained a writer in Madras in 1752, and sometime ago allowed to resign with leave to reside in India as a free merchant, is permitted, as a particular indulgence, to resume his former rank. The Reverend Thomas Howes, brother and executor of Captain John Howes, deceased at the Negrais, reports that the latter's estate (under 50,000 Pags., is in the hands of George Mackay. Bills may be drawn on this account. The favourable assertions regarding Caillaud in the Secret Committee's despatch of December 31, 1756, and the recommendations of him by Lawrence and Clive, would have fully warranted the Madras Council in recommending him to succeed Killpatrick as Major at Calcutta. Cannot deny the merit of Lieutenant-Colonel Forde, but he seems to have been governed by over-lucrative views in demanding the exorbitant sum of £5,000 as compensation for his losing his commission and rank in the King's service, before he would engage in the Company's service. Cannot apply to the Ministry that he may not suffer in his rank. We have so many favours to ask for that it may be taken amiss if we exceed our proper sphere. For this reason we shall not apply for a Major's commission for

Captain Hislop, though his character merits it. The difficulty of recruiting continues so great that we were hardly able to raise any men. Without His Majesty's assistance our Coast and Bay ships must have gone out almost without recruits. The Company's recruits, about 150, are sent to Madras. Thomas Fitzgerald and John Evans, in consideration of their services in raising recruits, are to succeed to the first ensignries, after their arrival at Fort St. George, as soon as those already recommended by the Company have been promoted. Meanwhile they will draw ensign's pay from the date of arrival. They sail on the *Royal George*. Have entertained as Cadets, Benjamin Lewis, David Roberts, William Hunt, Philip Brooks, William Tomes, John Fletcher, and Richard Holland.

Sumatra affairs.

As we considered that the trial of Charles Trimmer was illegal, we took it for granted that he would be set at liberty without any formal proceedings. Under the East India Mutiny Act of 1754, His Majesty is empowered to make Articles of War and constitute Courts-martial, provided that no punishment extending to life or limb shall be inflicted in times of peace, except for crimes specially named in the Act. Murder is not so named; consequently in time of peace, murderers cannot be tried by martial law. Although the office of Coroner is not mentioned in the charter, yet as it is necessary and useful, it may be continued; but no criminal may be convicted upon the Coroner's inquest. As to the proceedings against the Sherif for summoning the Mayor and Aldermen on juries, the resolution of the Mayor's Court of July 2, 1757, that it had been the custom to do so, and the fact that the existing Mayor and Aldermen had been so summoned without objection, seems to acquit him of all blame. Will make enquiry for the missing records of the old Mayor's Court. Among the books now sent which may be of use to the Mayor's Court are Jacob's Law Dictionary and Burn's Justice. Trust that, in future, disputes with the Mayor's Court may be settled amicably without resorting to the Company.

Supplement.—For the last 2 years have addressed the Governor and Council regarding reported abuses at Madras, in such terms as might have induced them to correct the abuses without being exposed to public censure; but as the language of the last letter proves that they are determined to support measures injurious to our interests, such as the monopolization of our sales of woollens, investment and farms by one set of men, we must state that gentlemen of honour and fortune long resident at Madras, have vouched for the following facts:—that the Governor or Governor

and Council receive 5 *per cent.* from the purchasers of the Company's broadcloth; that the farms, especially those of tobacco and betel, are taxed with heavy sums to the Governor or Governor and Council; and that presumably the investments are clogged in the same way. This explains why our woollens cannot be sold publicly in Madras, though they can be everywhere else, and why the investment is made by one set of men. The farms have indeed the appearance of a public sale, but, if every farmer knows the deductions he will have to make, he will bid accordingly. If these practices have been handed down as established perquisites, they are to be abolished at once. If the Council are innocent, let them exculpate themselves, but if they are guilty and persevere in the same measures, they shall all be dismissed from our service, and repayment of the sums improperly received shall be required. Parts of their letters do not show common good manners, much less that decency due from servants to their masters. The laconic manner of writing adopted for some time past often renders the general letters of no use. For example, the suspension of Edwards is reported without the Council giving its reasons; and again the Company was told it had misunderstood the Council's remarks on the subject of officer's rank, but no further explanation was tendered. Letters usually are received long before the book packets with the Consultations. These complaints are not levelled against Lawrence. In reply to his letter to the Secret Committee of March 13, 1758, we declare that he has in every respect discharged his duty to our entire satisfaction. Engagement of bricklayers and cadets for Bengal. Miscarriage of a chest of silver consigned to Bengal. Andrews stands well in our estimation and is to be promoted according to his standing in the military. Derbe Grady was permitted last year to go out as a free merchant; if at Madras, he may be employed in one of the Company's ships. Recommend Baron de Vasserot and Captain Pascall for suitable encouragement. If Robert Boulton, sent as cadet to Bengal on the *Walpole*, is at Madras, he is to be sent home at once, as his conduct is reported such as to forfeit our protection. The ships joining the Squadron are the *Lenox* (74 guns), *Duke of Acquitain* (64 guns), *York* (60 guns) and *Falmouth* (50 guns). The King's battalion is destined for Fort William and is not to be detained. It consists of about 1,000 men under Lieutenant Colonel Eyre Coote. Three companies under Major Robert Gordon that sail on the Coast and China ships are to be sent on to Bengal. The remainder will follow on the Squadron and the rest of the Company's ships. Strict orders have been given to the ships' commanders to treat

the officers and men well; and if the Surgeons do their duty, they may be paid the head-money usually allowed for Company's recruits. Coote's battalion is to be on the same footing as Colonel Draper's. Directions regarding the additional pay are so clear that they cannot be mistaken. Directions regarding Adlercron's regiment were equally clear. The Company was therefore much surprised when Captain Townshend of Adlercron's applied for 27⅛ pagodas a month for himself and ⅝ of a pagoda for each of two servants for the time he was absent in Bengal, asserting that he and the rest of the Captains had received it at Madras by way of equivalent for the advantages of the Company's Captains in clothing their companies. Such expenditure has been concealed in the Commissaries' books by the entry of large sums under general heads. It was never our intention that any such allowance should be made. If it has been given to Draper's battalion, it is to be rectified as soon as possible. In future, the Council will have to make good any such liberties taken with the Company's money. Trust that the directions in our despatch of December 23, 1757, to reduce as much as possible the field allowances, have been carried out. Do not at present know what allowances are made in Bengal. An exact account of the allowances at Madras is to be forwarded to the Fort William Council, as we have ordered such an account to be the rule by which the Bengal allowances are to be calculated. A similar account is to be sent to Bombay and to the Company.

DESPATCH FROM THE SECRET COMMITTEE TO THE SELECT COMMITTEE AT MADRAS. LONDON, JANUARY 23, 1759. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol.* 2, *pp.* 1—3 (*original*, 2½ *pp.*)]

Have read the minutes of the Private Committee, February 1, 1758, [*missing*] in which Orme reports receiving a letter from Venkata Rao of Mysore offering 30 lakhs of Rs. for the surrender of Trichinopoly, and stating that this is the utmost that the King of Mysore will give, and that a vakil is being sent to Madras. Agree with the Madras Committee that this offer was not sincere and expect that little further progress has been made. However as the Nawab's debt is an object of the highest concern, no opportunity should be lost of getting as large a satisfaction for it as circumstances will permit. The orders of February 13, 1756, recognise that the Company's honour and interest are closely connected with the Nawab's credit and advantage. But if his

affairs should be in such distress that our future support will rather increase than decrease his debt, he must consent to such terms as are most conducive to our interest, 'for although we are ready and willing to aid and assist this our faithful but unfortunate ally, we must not sacrifice ourselves.' But no steps may be taken that will dishonour the English name. The Nawab should be convinced that the proposed measures are fair and reasonable; and the Committee are then at liberty to execute their own determinations in case he will not be reasonable. Trichinopoly 'being a stake of the last importance,' it should not be delivered up, except for a sum nearly adequate to the Nawab's debt; nor should the Committee engage to guarantee its possession to any one; nor again should it pass to the French or their allies. Under such conditions, 30 lakhs may be deemed a fair equivalent for it. Before any definite action is taken the scheme must be approved by the Governor and Council. The communication of this important and secret affair to some of the Country powers is a most glaring indiscretion. If the Committee have not been betrayed by their own people, it is probably treachery on the part of the Mysoreans, instigated by the French in order to turn those powers against us.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC. LONDON, MARCH 23, 1759. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 62, *pp.* 103—114 (*original*, 12 *pp.*)]

Cite despatch of January 23, sent by the Coast and China ships which sailed February 15. The remainder of Coote's battalion, by the Squadron and 3 of the Coast and Bay ships, is expected to proceed direct to Bengal. The *Prince Henry* Packet, also sent out with Company's troops and military stores, is to be returned immediately or employed in India or sold. Perhaps the best use that can be made of her is to employ her at Sumatra. Observe from the Warehouse-keeper's report, that, when the *Warwick* sailed home, he had 127 bales of perpets or long ells on hand. If they cannot be sold to advantage, they may be sent to Bengal, as also the 1,320 yards of velvets. Have determined on the following Military Regulations in Bengal. The Company's infantry shall consist of 300 men in three companies. Colonel Coote is to be Commander-in-chief of the Company's forces under the orders of the Governor in Council there, having been permitted by the King to receive a commission to this effect. Coote has declined a salary for this, but he will be accommodated with a house. His

appointment does not affect Lawrence's commission who is still Commander-in-chief if he happens to be in Bengal. Paul Philip Polier de Bottens is to be Major, if not already promoted to that rank. Any excess over the established number of 300 Europeans are to be sent to Madras and Bombay. Supernumerary Captains are to be returned to whichever presidency they belong. In consideration of Lawrence's military qualities, he is to have the sole appointment of the Commander-in-chief of the Company's forces in Bengal in case of Coote's death or absence. Caillaud is to succeed Polier as Major at Madras, in consideration of his abilities and good conduct. He is not to have a constant seat at the Council or the Select Committee, but is to be called in whenever military matters are discussed or when he has any military proposals to make, at which times he will have a vote and sit next below the Second. He will have the command and clothing of one of the Companies, a salary of £250 a year with allowances for diet, servants and palankin usually paid to the Third in Council. To prevent any misunderstanding, now declare that he may not receive any additional pay for regulating or commanding any artillery Company. In case of his death or absence, the Council is to appoint provisionally a successor but we are determined to reserve the appointment of Major to ourselves. The Company dismissed Dawsonne Drake on the strength of the Council's representations of October 29, 1753, and November 10, 1754; but his friends having represented his affairs differently, and the Company having examined the Consultations, etc., together with his medical certificates, conclude that his state of health would not permit his proceeding to Sumatra. The account given in 1753 omitted these for obvious considerations, and as his case has been misrepresented, he is restored to his rank and station and is to receive his appointment for the whole period since his dismissal. He may be appointed Chief at Devikottai or any suitable station. A reference to the despatch of October 27, 1755, shows that the Council itself was satisfied that his case had been misrepresented. Regarding the suspension of Edward Edwards, do not understand why the Council should have insisted upon Dalrymple's being selected for instruction by Edwards in assaying. Suspect that Dalrymple was selected to annoy Edwards and give an opportunity for gratifying private resentment. Considering Edwards' ability, the reputation of the mint under him, and the evil consequences of placing it under persons ignorant of assaying such as Pybus or Dalrymple, the Company highly resent the Council's

taking such a step without awaiting the Company's orders, especially as Edwards on August 11, 1755, declared he was ready to instruct a person of his own choice. Complain of the delay in complying with the Company's order of March 25, 1757, received by the Council, February 21. If he has not been reinstated, he should be done so immediately, and allowed to choose whom he pleases for instructions. He is to receive his pay and allowances of £80 a year for the period of his suspension. Have received a memorial from Ephraim Isaac, late a free merchant at Fort St. George, complaining of severe and illegal treatment received from Pigot, and praying that Pigot may be ordered home in order that he may be sued in the English Courts.[1] Pigot is to reply by the first conveyance. Such conduct, and Council's disregard of orders, make it appear that 'you seem to aim at acting almost independently of us and in an arbitrary manner towards individuals.' Such conduct must immediately be reformed. The extravagant allowance granted to Captain John Howes as Chief of the Negrais, has led to a similar claim from Henry Brooke as Chief prior to him; but he is to be paid nothing on that account. Desire to learn whether the Council have paid £30 to Edward Brown as compensation for losing his eye in suppressing the mutiny of slaves who attempted to seize the *Swallow* at Madagascar. So long as the Nawab resides at Madras, his residence is to be made as agreeable as is consistent with the necessary frugality. Sampati Rao who is also at Madras is to be treated in a friendly manner suitable to his station. Both the Nawab and Sampati Rao are to be informed of these directions. Admiral Cornish has been appointed to command the Squadron proceeding eastward, consisting of the *Lenox* (Captain Robert Jocelyn), *Duke of Acquitain* (Sir William Hewitt), *York* (Captain Vincent Pearce) and *Falmouth* (Captain Richard Hughes Junior). The troops carried will be landed with the utmost expedition in Bengal so that the Admiral may proceed without delay on his further duties. On Cornish's arrival at Madras, he is to be supplied with all useful information and treated in a friendly and obliging manner. Certain Commanders of this season have been allowed to carry out trade guns, flints and shot for the purpose of buying fresh provisions at Madagascar, on condition that if they do not use them, they are to deliver them to the Council at the

[1] Isaac's letter occurs in *Miscellaneous Letters Received*, 1758–59, No. 132 (I.O.). Pigot's offence seems to have consisted in laughing at Isaac instead of taking his part in a quarrel over the servants. In 1754 the same person had refused to acknowledge the Governor and Council as anything but Justices of the Peace.

presidency where they first arrive. The officers of the *Prince Henry* Packet, should she be detained in India, may continue on her or come home as charterparty passengers or as officers of our freighted ships. In order to prevent the damages of finer piece-goods of which some have recently arrived much damaged, bales containing them are to be pointed out to the commander so that they may be specially stowed. News from France of Lally's capture of Fort St. David and of two engagements between the fleets. Gather that they turned in our favour and that Fort St. George was safe in the beginning of September. So long as our fleet remains master of the sea, trust that the English will be able to maintain their ground, especially as the *Grafton* and *Sunderland* with their convoy, including the whole of Draper's battalion, should have reached Madras in September. We must depend upon your prudence to conduct the Company's affairs according to the circumstances of the time.

Appended is a copy of the Company's Commission, dated March 20, 1759, to John Caillaud as Major [p. 159].

LETTER FROM SECRETARY ROBERT JAMES TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC. LONDON, MARCH 27, 1759. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 62, *p.* 117 (*original,* ½ *page*).]

The prize-money belonging to His Majesty's ship *King's Fisher*, which still remains in the East Indies, may be received into the Company's cash in return for bills of exchange on the Company.

THE MADRAS DESPATCHES, 1759-1760.

DESPATCH FROM GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, NOVEMBER 1, 1759. [*Military Despatches to England, Vol. 2, pp. 87—97 (copy, 10½ pp.)*]

Now despatch the *Diligent* snow in order to report Pocock's action with the French fleet. He sighted it September 2, off Ceylon; but though he kept it in sight till the evening of the 4th, he could not bring it to action. On the 5th, no longer seeing it, he made straight for Pondichery in order to prevent it from getting in without an action. He was off Pondichery on the morning of the 8th and about noon the enemy came in sight. They continued to avoid him until the 10th, when they were off Tranquebar. They had 11 ships of the line against Pocock's 9. He was besides obliged to bear down obliquely to avoid being raked. They accordingly were able to engage before the whole of our line was in action, and did so when our 7th ship was abreast of their last, thus preventing the *Sunderland* and *Weymouth* from getting into action. The other 7, however, after 2 hours' engagement, obliged the enemy to break their line and bear away with all sail. Most of our ships were unable to pursue especially the *Tyger* and *Newcastle*. Captain Michie of the *Newcastle* was killed; Captains Somerset of the *Cumberland* and Brereton of the *Tyger* wounded; and 569 men killed and wounded of whom Pocock expects to lose 200. Suppose the French fleet were forced to retire owing to their great loss of men, as their ships did not seem so much damaged as ours. From the reports received, they are thought to have lost about 700, killed and wounded. On September 15, they anchored in Pondichery road while Pocock was repairing his damages at Negapatam. This was finished on September 26. On the 27th at daybreak, Pocock appeared off Pondichery within cannon shot of the enemy; but they stood away with the land wind to the southward. We too laid in a line off Pondichery till sunset, when Pocock, seeing that the enemy was resolved not to fight, and being short of provisions and water, bore away for Madras where he anchored September 28. The French fleet returned to Pondichery and sailed October 1. Believe they have gone to the Islands especially as they landed 400 marines the day before they left and

took on board Major-General Soupire, Brigadier Lally and other passengers for Europe. Pocock found it necessary to proceed to Bombay to refit, but consented to order Cornish, who was believed to have gone to Bengal, to proceed here the latter part of December where he was to be joined by two of the old squadron in January, in order to prevent the French from blockading Madras. Just when he was ready to sail on October 16, advice came that Cornish had been sighted off Ceylon October 7. A letter from him, dated the 8th, showed that he intended to proceed to Madras in the hope of joining Pocock before the French ships had left the Coast. Pocock sailed on the 17th, and as Cornish has not yet appeared, it is supposed that he has gone to Bengal. If Cornish could have been sent out only a few weeks earlier, the French fleet might have been utterly destroyed. A Dutch expedition from Batavia sailed at the end of June, and reached Negapatam August 9. It consisted of 7 ships with 350 Europeans and 550 Buggesses. It sailed again September 13 and a letter from Bengal of October 3 announces its arrival there. Cornish's squadron will therefore be welcome. Forde's troops have been recalled to Bengal. Had Coote and his regiment arrived here, Caillaud with 200 of the Company's troops would have been sent to Bengal. Coote has apparently gone thither direct. In case Clive goes home and Coote stays in Bengal, the Council there will be in the same unpleasant situation as the Madras Council. Moracin's party, by the last advices, was still at Ganjam, but in great distress. Some officers and 30 or 40 men have been cut off by Narayanadev. Forde is ordered to march first against them and then return to Bengal. Forde himself, however, has sailed, and left the expedition to be conducted by Captain Fischer. Masulipatam has been handed over to Andrews but without a single European. Have sent thither the *Prince Henry* Packet with 60 military and artillery under Captain Gurtler and ordered Andrews to augment his sepoys to 1,000. These will suffice to protect the place against the Country powers, and it is hoped that the French will be unable to make any new attempts there. Andrews has been directed to make the possession of Masulipatam as beneficial as possible, and to send details of the trade and revenue of the port itself and the districts adjacent to it. Salabat Jang and Nizam Ali are still at Hyderabad, and seem to hold the Deccan with more ample and uncontrolled power than hitherto. Basalat Jang advanced within 100 miles of Madras and forced the Northern poligars to visit him and pay tribute. Bussy was marching with a detachment to conduct him to

Arcot, but the mutiny of the French troops obliged him to return. The arrival of an English detachment encouraged the poligars to withdraw from Basalat Jang, and the latter is now returning northwards. The French mutiny was a revolt of the whole Lorraine Regiment who seized 4 guns and marched off 5 miles from the French camp at Wandiwash, whence they declared that, if they were not paid their arrears in 3 days, they should proceed to subsist themselves in the country. A supply of money was sent out from Pondichery, and the Regiment returned to its colours on a promise that the rest of the arrears should be paid in a week. Military operations were closed with an unsuccessful attack upon the pettah of Wandiwash. On the arrival of a part of Coote's regiment under Major Gordon by the China Ships, it was resolved, with the advice of the field officers, to endeavour either to bring the French to action or reduce the fort of Wandiwash. On our approach, the French retired into the pettah, which was surrounded by a kind of entrenchment. The pettah was attacked September 30 at daybreak. The grenadiers and some pickets under Majors Monson, Gordon, and Caillaud, lodged themselves in the streets with little loss, but in the morning were driven out with a loss of 4 guns and 200 men by the fire from the Fort and attacks from all sides by the French. Major Brereton succeeded in covering the retreating party. The Company's officers killed were Lieutenant-Adjutant Minns, Lieutenant Fitzpatrick, and Captain Greig (died of wounds). The enemy's loss is said to have exceeded ours. Both armies are now cantoned, the enemy's at Wandiwash and ours at Conjeeveram. The two armies are now about equal, in consequence of the reinforcements from the French Squadron. Believe that the money they received by the Squadron was 2 lakhs of rupees in silver and equal value in diamonds taken from the *Grantham*. It is not known whether the latter belonged to the public or the captors. The Bengal Council advise us that they can send almost all the money that we need and we have already received enough to last until the beginning of next year. The *Denham* and *Oxford* were sent up to bring French prisoners from Masulipatam. They arrived October 12 with 241 privates. As the French have about 190 of our prisoners at Pondichery, have proposed to complete the exchange. On September 10, Lally forwarded the cartel [for the exchange of prisoners] concluded between the French and English at Sluys on February 16, and desired to know whether the Madras Council accepted it. We replied that we must await orders from Europe. By the printed

copies of it received by the *Prince Henry* Packet, suppose the Company desires it to be observed. To facilitate the adjustment of expenses for the maintenance of prisoners at the conclusion of peace, have prepared a statement of expenses under that head from the time of Law's surrender in 1752 till now. The expense of prisoners taken before the war, has been charged to the Nawab, but the whole should be repaid by the French. Shall forward the account to Pondichery, though no satisfaction is to be expected. They also have made similar advances, an account of which has not yet been received. Since writing the foregoing, on October 27, the *Queenborough* frigate anchored here with 3 Company's ships. Pocock had fallen in with Cornish October 18 and had ordered all the men and troops of Coote's regiment on Cornish's 4 ships into the *Queenborough*, knowing that the Bengal Council had directed Coote to remain on the Coast. Cornish's Squadron is accompanying Pocock to the Malabar Coast, but Pocock promises to despatch some men-of-war so as to be here early in January. He has received orders to return to England with such ships as are no longer fit to remain in India. He has shown a great attachment to the Company's interest, and his zeal for the King's service has been proved by his past actions. The weather being favourable, all the troops have been safely landed. Are preparing Caillaud's detachment to be sent to Bengal on the *Ajax*, *Stormont*, *Houghton*, *Oxford*, and *Denham*. Draper's regiment has been so sickly that the losses have been great. The effective troops on the Coast only number 3,179 non-commissioned officers and men.

Appended are:—

(1) a list (p. 98) of the French ships under Admiral D'Aché—*Zodiaque*, 74 guns; *Minotaur*, 74 guns; *Comte de Provence*, 74 guns; *Centaur*, 66 guns; *Illustre*, 64 guns; *Vengeur*, 64 guns; *Actif*, 64 guns; *Fortune*, 64; *St. Louis*, 60; *Duc de Bourgogne*, 60; and *Duc d'Orleans*, 60; and (2) a list of the packets (pp. 99-100).

DESPATCH FROM GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 16, 1760. [*Military Despatches to England, Vol. 2, pp.* 101—119 (*copy*, 18½ *pp.*)]

Cite despatch [of November 1] sent by the *Diligent* snow which sailed November 6. Now despatch the *Prince Henry* Packet, express to report in particular the defeat of the Dutch in Bengal and Coote's victory at Wandiwash. Reports from Bengal of the overthrow of the Dutch. Caillaud sailed with part of his detachment to Bengal November 2; the remainder sailed November 11, and

arrived safely, though too late to take part against the Dutch. This reinforcement together with the 330 Germans who have voluntarily enlisted from the Dutch service, and Forde's detachment now at Vizagapatam awaiting ships, should make the Bengal troops strong enough to maintain their position, and perhaps even to spare us a reinforcement. On Coote's landing, preparations were made for his regiment to take the field. Meanwhile Lally sent 1,000 Europeans to re-occupy Srirangam. For fear of their attacking Trichinopoly, we desired Coote to join the army at Conjeeveram and attack some of the enemy's possessions here in order to draw their troops this way. The army marched from Conjeeveram November 25. On November 26, a detachment under Brereton invested Wandiwash. Two batteries were opened the 29th. Next day, a breach being made, the old Killedar, Taqi Sahib, offered to pay a sum of money and deliver up the French garrison on condition of being continued in his government. Before the offer was accepted, the French troops surrendered at discretion. Six officers and 53 privates thus became prisoners. The place though so often threatened was never before captured. Thence the army marched against Karunguli defended by Colonel O'Kennely with 100 Europeans and sepoys. A battery was opened December 6 and the fort was breached on the 8th. But as there was a ditch and the storm might have been attended with loss, Coote permitted the Europeans to withdraw to Pondichery, and the fort surrendered on the 10th. Meanwhile most of the Srirangam troops had been recalled and the French army assembled at Arcot. Chanda Sahib's son, Taqi Sahib's son, and others were sent to secure assistance from Morari Rao. They had already a great number of country troops brought in by Bussy when he visited Basalat Jang at Cuddapah. These were joined in January by Innis Khan with 2,000 Marathas. The French force consisted of nearly 2,500 Europeans under Lally's personal command. Coote took post between Kaveripakkam and Arcot, only 3 miles from the enemy's advanced guards, in order to cover our districts from the raids of the Marathas, small parties of whom were scattered on all sides to plunder. Coote's forces consisted of 2,100 Europeans, including artillery, cavalry and officers, 4,000 sepoys and 1,500 country horse whom we have been forced to entertain, notwithstanding their expense, owing to the great number of horse with the enemy, as otherwise the army could not have been fed. The day after being joined by the Marathas, Lally moved off along the Wandiwash road; but on the second day, detached a party which plundered

Conjeeveram but could not take the fort, garrisoned by 2 companies of sepoys under an officer. Coote at once marched towards Conjeeveram and the enemy's party retired to their main force at Papantangal between Conjeeveram and Wandiwash. The latter place was garrisoned by Captain Sherlock with 150 Europeans and 8 companies of sepoys. On January 16 Lally attacked the Pettah occupied by 3 companies of sepoys under a sepoy ensign, secured a lodgment there, and prepared to raise a battery. On the 28th, they opened fire with one 24-pounder and three 18-pounders. In spite of the superiority of the enemy's forces, it was clear that they could not both continue the siege and engage our army without placing themselves at a disadvantage. Accordingly the Council approved Coote's marching towards them, with Chingleput and Karunguli in his rear. He took post at Utramallur on January 17. Judging by his advices that the breach in the Wandiwash fort might be practicable on the 22nd, he resolved to attempt to raise the siege that morning. On the 21st evening, he marched and encamped in front of the enemy. At daybreak he advanced. At 8, the advanced guards of horse came into contact, the enemy retiring before us. At 10, the whole body of the enemy's cavalry, 200 Europeans and 3,000 Marathas came in sight and soon after the whole of the enemy's army formed in order of battle. We continued advancing in good order under a warm cannonade—14 field guns of ours against 18 of the enemy. About noon, the musketry fire opened; and as an ammunition tumbril blew up on the enemy's left, creating some confusion, Coote directed the 79th under Brereton on our right to make a half wheel and endeavour to take the left of the enemy in the flank. This was executed by Brereton with his usual brisk valour. The troops following him with most exact order, the enemy's left fell back in confusion abandoning their guns. Our centre and left came immediately to close action with the enemy's centre and right, already put into confusion by the retreat of their left. They also were driven from their guns. The rout then became general and about 2 o'clock we were masters of their camp, baggage and artillery. We lost 66 killed, including Ensign Stewart (84th), Ensign Collins (79th), and Ensign Evans (of the Company's service). Brereton was mortally wounded. 'In him, the nation has lost a young officer from whom much future service might have been expected.' Lieutenant Brown (79th) also died of his wounds. Captain Knuttal, Ensigns West, Halfpenny, Thompson and Horler (79th), Lieutenants Tid and Frazier and Ensign Heron (84th) and Cornet Kuhn of Hussars, and 124 men

were wounded. The enemy lost 200 killed on the spot and 400 wounded, half of whom were left behind. We took prisoners Bussy, Colonel Murphy, Quartermaster-General Godeville and 11 others. Their loss of officers is unknown. That day the enemy retired to Chetpattu 15 miles off; and thence they marched to Gingee and arrived at Pondichery on January 27. Of the 18 captured guns one was a 24-pounder and one an 18-pounder, besides the 4 guns they had mounted on the battery against the fort. After halting for 2 or 3 days to bury the dead and collect the wounded, our troops marched towards Chetpattu. Having opened a 2 gun-battery on January 29, the garrison of 56 Europeans, including Chevalier de Tilly and 3 other officers, surrendered. Next day, Coote marched to Arcot and opened 2 batteries on February 4. Hope to report its capture before this letter is closed. Lally is believed to have recalled his troops from Srirangam where, at the time of the action, the enemy had 500 Europeans, having been obliged to send a strong escort for stores, a small party of 2 officers and 38 men first sent having been captured by the Trichinopoly garrison. The French troops are now advancing again towards Wandiwash and are reported 25 miles from Karunguli. Their object must be to make us raise the siege of Arcot, but they are not strong enough to carry on a siege or approach our army till reinforced by the Srirangam troops. Their Maratha horse took no part in the late action. After 10 o'clock when the fire grew warm, they withdrew to Chetpattu, thence to Arcot, and are now returning home (we believe) having been 'but poorly paid for the fright they have suffered.' Their departure is most fortunate, for they would have totally destroyed the harvest, and already there is reason to fear a scarcity of grain. The enemy's European cavalry did once attempt a charge, and might have changed the fortune of the day, but for a body of sepoys with two field-pieces having been posted in anticipation of such a circumstance. These were concealed by our cavalry who being too weak to resist, were ordered to open so as to uncover the fire from the field-pieces. So long as the enemy have a strong body of horse which we cannot meet, a body of infantry must always be held in reserve against them. As horses are essential for the destruction of a defeated enemy, or, in case of defeat to cover the withdrawal of their own side, the supply of cavalry and accoutrements is urged. Desire a larger annual supply of gunpowder. Have not yet been able to restore the Egmore powder-mill, and are altogether dependent on Bombay. Nothing but Europe gunpowder is fit for musket cartridges. Believe that

every one of the Company's ships could bring out a 100 barrels. Frequent complaints are made of the quality of flints sent out. As Taqi Sahib, who was taken prisoner at the capture of Wandiwash, owes the Nawab many years' tribute, and has always supported the French, he has been brought to Madras and confined. The Nawab, who is still at Trichinopoly, says he should be made to pay 10 lakhs of rupees and should not be released. He has not yet made any proposals and will be delivered over to the Nawab when practicable. News comes from Delhi that two months ago, Alamgir II was replaced by Shah Jahan. This is likely to recall the Shah Zada from Bengal. Everything is quiet in the Deccan. In November, Moracin's party, after many hardships, embarked on country ships; and having put ashore a party at Cocanada the remainder under the Chevalier de la Poëte, sailed for Pondichery. Moracin had sailed a few days earlier. Some of the Cocanada party were captured, and the rest were killed or taken by the Raja. Of the 500 men that sailed from Pondichery in April, hardly 150 have returned. Yusuf Khan, now renter of Madura and Tinnevelly, has entered into an alliance with the King of Travancore. Have advised the Anjengo Council that this may be a good opportunity to procure privileges for the trade of that settlement. Yusuf Khan is still at war with the Pulithever and lately was obliged to give up an attempt on one of his principal forts. In November, according to the terms of the cartel, a general exchange of prisoners was made when we delivered up 29 men more than we received. The difference should have been made up in money, but the French officer had no orders to that effect. Pigot proposed to Lally a meeting of Commissaries at Sadras to settle accounts of expenditure for the maintenance of the prisoners. Lally replied (January 3) that he would send one, but has done nothing. Under the cartel, the French should discharge without delay our account of disbursements. Until they do so, we do not intend to deliver up the prisoners lately taken to the number of 400 inclusive of the wounded. Lally seems to think otherwise, for he obliged all his officers at Pondichery on parole to carry arms in the late action. Two of these were recaptured, and are in confinement till their characters can be cleared. Some others have not been released on parole. Coote, out of politeness, allowed Bussy, Godeville and another to return to Pondichery on parole. Regret that this was done. The arrival of Bussy as a prisoner here would have had great effect on Indian opinion, as his reputation stands so high. Coote, at our request, has written to Bussy and others demanding

their return. In answer, Lally has sent to offer their ransom money insisting that under the cartel they are no longer prisoners. He seems to think that he can disregard the cartel when disadvantageous and claim its support whenever it suits his purposes. Coote desired that the Company might maintain a table for him in the field as was done for Lawrence, asserting that this had been promised him. But as no mention had been made of this in the Company's despatches and as Brereton had been refused a table when he commanded, we refused it until orders should be received. Coote has refused to accept the usual field allowance of 5 Pags. a day as by no means equal to his expenses. This is indeed the fact. Lawrence's expenses, as borne by the Company, amounted to more than double. Have reorganized the sepoys, dividing them into battalions of 1,000, with 3 captains to the whole body, and 2 ensigns and 3 sergeants-major to each battalion, instead of 1 sergeant to a company. Half a rupee a month is stopped for clothing each battalion. This will consume about 50,000 rupees' worth of broadcloth. It is not to be delivered, like the military clothing at prime cost, but at the usual advance of 30 *per cent.* This reorganization has already had a good effect, and 'if the officers will give the necessary attention to the rules laid down for them, we may hope to see that body of men brought into good order and render'd very useful.' In spite of the enemy's loss at Wandiwash, they are still equal if not superior in numbers. This must be owing to their large, and our scanty, reinforcements. Cannot win battles without losing men, nor preserve our advantages unless we are reinforced as largely as the enemy. The chief officers of the French declare they expect large reinforcements which have actually reached the Islands. Pocock's squadron should arrive in time to prevent their landing. Pocock wrote that he had ordered Cornish to sail from Tellicherry not later than December 15, with the *Lenox, Duke of Acquitaine, Falmouth, York, Weymouth* and *Sunderland.* He has not yet appeared. All the rest of the ships reached Bombay safely (December 13), but it is not known when Pocock will sail and with what ships. They are hard at work on repairs. Our losses in men last year may be reckoned as follows in the two regiments, artillery and Company's battalions:—In the several hospitals, 730; killed and wounded at the siege, 500; at Conjeeveram 25; at Wandiwash Pettah 200; in the battle 190; in small skirmishes 55; total 1,700. This is a third of the force we should have had if there have been no losses. Not less than 1,000 a year are needed to keep up our complement,

and Bengal needs 500. Have included the wounded in this account as very few recover sufficiently to be used again for active service. The number of our invalids is at present very large. On February 9 received news from Bombay of the capture of Gombroon by the Count d'Estaing. He pretends to have received news of his having been exchanged. Nothing of the sort has been done. He was only allowed to go to Europe on condition of his surrendering himself to His Majesty. Cannot understand how he can justify his conduct. February 11 news came of the surrender of Arcot with its garrison of 11 officers and 203 Europeans as prisoners; shall advise Coote to march into the French territory west of Pondichery and there subsist his troops. This will distress the enemy and probably occasion desertions. February 15 received a letter from Captain Richard Smith at Trichinopoly reporting the enemy's having abandoned Srirangam on February 6. This is fortunate, as without Srirangam, the Trichinopoly revenues do not suffice to maintain the garrison.

Appended are:—(1) copies of Count d'Estaing's parole (p. 120); (2) account of money disbursed to maintain the French prisoners from June 30, 1752, to October 31, 1759, amounting to 83,397 Rs. and 36,164 Pags. (pp. 121–125); and (3) list of the packets (pp. 127–128).

DESPATCH FROM GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 31, 1760. [*Military Despatches to England, Vol. 2, pp.* 129—149 (*copy*, 21 *pp.*)]

As the Select Committee, appointed in Despatch of November 23, 1759, was void by the death or absence of all the members except the President, military affairs are being managed by the whole Board in a separate department. The Secret Committee's letter to the Select Committee by the *Syren* reached us the 3rd. Cite despatch of February 16. On the surrender of Arcot, Coote was at once urged to move towards Pondichery to subsist his army in the French territories, and to cut off supplies from Pondichery by land, while the Squadron blockaded it by sea. The field train, etc., was made ready. Captain Stephen Smith, with a party of horse and sepoys, reduced Tiruvannamalai. The army marched from Arcot February 23. The places to be reduced were Alambarai (a sea port 20 miles north of Pondichery) and Perumalkovil (20 miles west of Alambarai). The latter is situated on the top of an exceedingly steep rock accessible only on one side and that side so difficult that, if the fort could be repaired and well stored, a very

small garrison could defend it against any army. It was commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel O'Kennely. Lally attempted to reinforce him, but was prevented by our army's rapid march. On March 3, Coote occupied the Pettah taking 4 guns. A few days later with the help of a guide furnished by the killedar of the fort, a party of Europeans and sepoys lodged themselves on the only accessible part of the rock. A six-pounder was carried up thither. This soon made a breach and preparations were made for an assault. March 5, the garrison surrendered. It consisted of 15 Europeans and 30 Coffrees. Our loss was mainly of sepoys who behaved well. Alambarai was next attacked. The *Falmouth* was detached by Cornish to prevent the garrison escaping by sea. After a slight resistance it surrendered March 12, with its garrison of 1 officer and 50 men. Meanwhile we proposed to Cornish the plan of taking Karikal by landing his marines and joining them to a detachment from Trichinopoly. He and Coote concurred in this measure, and Major Monson was appointed to command. Captain Richard Smith was ordered to leave enough men at Trichinopoly to secure it against surprise and to march down to blockade Karikal with the remainder. Cornish sailed March 25. Major Monson with 50 men sailed from Alambarai by the *Falmouth* and arrived the 28th, before Smith. Steevens landed his marines the same night. The shortness of his passage was lucky, as it obliged a detachment, sent from Pondichery, to return. Smith arrived a day or two later. April 5, the garrison, consisting of 7 officers, 91 Europeans, 72 topasses and 250 sepoys surrendered. April 14, Monson marched towards Pondichery. On the 19th Chidambaram surrendered with its garrison of 6 officers and 46 men. On the 27th Vriddhachalam surrendered with one officer and 15 men. After this the marines were re-embarked, and Monson rejoined the army with his detachment. Meanwhile Coote had seized the Pettah of Valudavur, a very good country fort 9 miles to the west of Pondichery. April 16, the fort surrendered with 3 officers, 48 Europeans, 8 Coffrees and 3 companies of sepoys, in spite of movements made by Lally in the hope of raising the siege. April 19, a detachment of sepoys occupied Cuddalore without opposition, so that such posts round Pondichery were occupied as would make it difficult for the enemy to get in provisions. A camp was then formed on the plain beneath Valudavur, consisting of thatched sheds as offering more effectual shelter from heat than tents. The army had unfortunately suffered great loss by sickness as the season had been very hot,

Although Cornish sailed from Tellicherry December 18, he did not arrive here till February 23, with the *Lenox*, *York*, *Duke of Acquitaine*, *Weymouth*, *Sunderland* and *Falmouth*. As his people were sickly, he could not sail southward against Karikal until March 25. In spite of cruising between Karikal and Pondichery, two ships — the one a Company's ship the *Campagnie des Indes*, and the other a flûte called the *Baleine*, managed to reach Pondichery, but luckily they did not bring any reinforcements. Although when Pocock heard of the Dutch attacks in Bengal, he proposed to return to Coast, yet on hearing of the Dutch defeat, he determined to return to Europe and sailed from Anjengo April 21 on the *Yarmouth*. Cannot but acknowledge his great vigilance and zeal, and our perfect harmony with the Navy during his command. April 27, Steevens joined Cornish with the *Grafton*, *Elizabeth*, *Tyger*, and *Newcastle* (of the line) and the *Queenborough* and *Revenge* (frigates). The *Salisbury* joined the Squadron May 26. The *Cumberland* is expected in August. June 13, the *Norfolk* and *Panther* joined Steevens at Cuddalore which has been found the most convenient place for watering and provisioning the Squadron. Steevens is lying there, detaching vessels to form a line of blockade off Pondichery, with cruisers to the southward to report the approach of the French Squadron. During the siege of Alambarai news was received that the *Haarlem* (the vessel taken from the Dutch) had captured several grain vessels from the southward. She was afterwards sent by Moracin's party from Ganjam to Mergui for provisions; but the French had quitted Ganjam before she returned. The *Falmouth* was sent to cruise for her off Pondichery; but her crew ran her aground, and she was burnt.

In planning the reduction of Karikal it had been resolved to offer it to the King of Tanjore in exchange for other concessions, on condition of its being demolished. Charles Bourchier was sent with the expedition and Monson was desired to put him in possession on its surrender. When this was done, Cornish and officers of the Squadron claimed everything taken in the fort and denied our right to appoint any one to take charge. We informed him of the terms of the King's Patent of January 14, 1758, ordering all plunder taken by His Majesty's and the Company's forces to be reserved till His Majesty had determined its division. The Council proposed that a joint agent should be appointed and the produce reserved accordingly. Steevens replied that the Navy was entitled by Act of Parliament to the sole benefit of everything taken by them. Have not yet been able to settle this matter, but

hope that a method may be found when we can meet Steevens in person. Fortunately this difference has not affected the harmony and good will between us and the Squadron. Bourchier has returned from Tanjore. The best offer he could get for Karikal was half a lakh of rupees down, and a bond for a lakh more payable in 12 months, provided the districts remained unmolested by the French. As soon as Karikal was captured, Leigh was employed to mine all the works thereof. Some of the mines have already been sprung, and in a short time, the fort will be in complete ruins. Steevens will do the same at Alambarai.

Steevens established a naval hospital at Cuddalore owing to the convenience of its situation; 2 companies of sepoys were posted to guard it, and signals arranged so that in case of attack, the marines might be sent ashore. In spite of this, however, a party of the French, on the night of May 11, succeeded in carrying off about 60 men from the hospital. They made a similar attempt a few days later, but an entrenchment had been thrown up, and some cannon mounted, so that they withdrew with a loss equal to that of the English on the first occasion.

In spite of their distresses, the enemy still find some help. Though short of money and provisions, and embarrassed by continual desertion, nevertheless by dint of promises which they are more willing to make than keep, they have brought to their assistance about 4,000 Mysorean horse who (they hope) will be able to throw in provisions. Trust that the good dispositions made to prevent this will succeed. Had we money to spare, we would entertain a body of Maratha horse, not to serve here for we are better without them, but to send into Mysore and thus compel the recall of their troops. Besides, if the Marathas are not employed by us, they may either join the French or enter the province on their own account. Part of Balaji Rao's army is already reported to be on the frontiers of the Carnatic, and we expect a demand will soon be made for chauth, though we do not see how it can be paid. That part of the despatch announcing that no treasure will be sent out this year was the more disappointing, as Bengal had informed us not long before that they could give no further help. We have no reason to expect any help from Bombay. So our whole dependence lies now on the Nawab's revenues, which might be ruined by the incursion of 2,000 or 3,000 Marathas or by the rebellion of a few poligars. It is most regrettable that the destruction of the French should be put at hazard for want of supplies, necessary to any, but especially to an English, army. There are

no troops in the world more brave when they are well supplied, but none so mutinous when they are unpaid. Have been making preparations for the siege of Pondichery in case some lucky event renders it practicable. Have received supplies of gunpowder from Bengal and Bombay. Bombay have sent us 3 companies of the King's train, and an ill-disciplined company, mostly topasses, from Tellicherry. Do not believe that they could really spare us any European troops. It is uncertain whether Bengal will be able to detach any men this season, in spite of their having defeated the Shah Zada. However, private advices report that the latter is likely to proceed to Delhi in consequence of the Abdali's invasion. In the Deccan, the Marathas have defeated Salabat Jang in a pitched battle, with the result that large districts, worth 60 lakhs of rupees a year, together with Daulatabad, have been ceded to them. The divisions among the Moghals make it more than likely that the Marathas will become, perhaps in a short time, masters of the whole empire. Nizam Ali having visited the Northern Circars in order to collect tributes from the Rajas, Alexander, who is in charge of Masulipatam, was ordered to visit him and obtain grants for the Company of all the districts formerly possessed by the French, not that the present was thought the occasion to secure this, but because a complimentary visit is necessary and this might lead to negotiations which might be completed later. He has been promised grants of Rajahmundry, Ellore, and Mustaphanagar, supposed to produce 20 lakhs of rupees a year net, on condition of our furnishing 700 Europeans and 1,500 sepoys, for whose services 2 lakhs of rupees shall be paid on their arrival at Masulipatam, and 1 lakh monthly thereafter. We have promised to send them as soon as Pondichery is taken. Nizam Ali has now returned to Hyderabad.

The Nawab was present at the siege of Karikal, and now is at Madras to which he returned with as much gladness as he left it with sorrow. After our settling with him the question of his revenues, he set out for Wandiwash, where he is now assembling his forces. Soon after the last despatch, Lally sent a commissary to Sadras as though prepared to execute the cartel and also sent in the ransom money for Bussy. This we returned and demanded that Bussy and all other officers released on parole should return to Madras, as we were assured that they had borne arms in the action of January 22 (in spite of their being unexchanged prisoners) by reason of Lally's orders. As Lally refused to give them up, we refused to send any commissary to Sadras. As the French officers left here were murmuring against Lally for his

unfairness towards them, we supposed that the same spirit might be aroused at Pondichery. As we believed that the summons sent to Bussy and others had been suppressed by Lally, we permitted one of their officers here to return to Pondichery for a month, sending by him a list of prisoners whom we had recalled, and a copy of Pigot's letter to Lally to be communicated to the persons concerned. Lally refused to let this officer comply with his special parole and put him in arrest, but he was released by the general council of officers, and returned at the right time, telling us that Bussy and others had been entirely ignorant of what had passed, but would surrender if Lally permitted them. Bussy himself came in soon after, but none of the others, until Lally, being short of provisions, ordered them to quit the bounds within 48 hours. Bussy has been allowed to return to Pondichery to settle some affairs with the Company of the greatest importance to his private fortune. Hope to send him home by the *Shaftesbury*. In February a subsistence allowance was made to the French officers on parole here. Lally paid it for the months of February and March, but has not done so since in spite of our representations to him. Mackay has again obtained the contract for dieting the men in the field, etc. Hope that the reinforcements now expected will not be divided among the presidencies, but will be sent here. Such a chance of taking Pondichery may not occur again. Regret that the Company has ignored the great services of Captain Preston during the siege, as the services performed by the Black army depended mostly on him and he commanded it until February 7. This is by no means intended to depreciate Caillaud's services. The *Syren* snow which sailed from Anjengo for Bombay in the middle of June, was driven to leeward and has been ordered up here. On news of the approach of the Mysoreans, the Nawab was desired to collect his forces to oppose them. Preston with a detachment of troops was ordered to join him. As this plan was delayed 'by the Nawab's attending to the ceremonies of the country,' Coote sent a strong detachment under Major More in the middle of June. The latter marched towards Tyagar where the Mysore troops assembled, but part of the Mysoreans slipped round him and got into Pondichery, though we believe without provisions. Their main body, having collected all the provisions they could at Tyagar, attacked Major More at Tiruvadi where he was posted on June 18. After losing 35 Europeans, killed and wounded, More retired under the walls of Tyagar, although our Hussars are said to have driven the enemy into the Pennar thrice during the action. The Mysoreans then

got into Pondichery with their convoy. June 17, Coote moved towards Villiyanallur, a small redoubt, 3 miles south-west of Pondichery. On the 20th a battery was erected and after a short time, a party of sepoys stormed the covered way, on which the garrison surrendered. This was lucky as Lally was in sight marching with his whole army to relieve it. When he saw the English colours hoisted, he withdrew to his posts. Thirty-five Europeans and Coffrees were taken at Villiyanallur. It is a convenient post from which to cover the blockade of Pondichery. If we receive supplies and Steevens succeeds in shutting the French fleet out of Pondichery, that place will be completely blockaded. Are in urgent need of gunpowder in spite of supplies from Bombay and Bengal. Indeed nothing but Europe powder will serve for musketry and mortars. Repeat the request for an ample supply. The French have always had a large store of it. The gunpowder received by the *Onslow* was in a very bad condition. The Captains of His Majesty's service have refused to acknowledge Captains Joseph Smith and Achilles Preston lately appointed Majors, alleging that we have no power to appoint field officers. Have already argued this point with Colonel Coote, but it is still undecided. As, by the end of the war, the Company's forces in India will be considerably reduced, it may be advantageous if the marines are permitted to remain after the return of the Squadron to Europe. At the end of the last war, Commodore Lisle was requested to leave them behind, but he said that he could not without permission of the Admiralty. Forward a general return of the troops.

Appended are:—(1) a report (p. 150) on the survey of the *Onslow's* gunpowder. Only 33 barrels serviceable out of 60, principally owing to the badness of the barrels, and (2) lists of the packets (pp. 151—153.)

DESPATCH FROM GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, AUGUST 14, 1760. [*Military Despatches to England, Vol. 2, pp.* 154—157 (*copy, 4 pp.*)]

The *Ajax*, by which the despatch of July 31 will go, has been detained in consequence of the news of the arrival of the *Caernarvon, Lord Mansfield, Princess Augusta, Warwick* and *Falmouth* with the squadron. The ships and packets did not actually arrive until August 9, when we received the Secret Committee's despatch dated February 15 and a letter from Dudley and Steevens of March 1. Observe that the 2 battalions intended for India are destined—one to Bengal and the other to Bombay. Their assistance

would have rendered the capture of Pondichery almost certain. The steps to be taken for that purpose have not yet been decided. Consider that the best course will be for Steevens to remain on the Coast during the rains and for the army to remain in the Pondichery bounds, so that the blockade may be continued until the siege can be begun with the first fair weather. But we cannot tell whether Steevens will do this, or whether he can give such assistance as will enable Coote to undertake the siege before the rains. To avoid delays of correspondence, Pigot will set out to confer with Steevens and Coote as soon as the *Ajax* is despatched. The ships now arrived parted with the 4 men-of-war off Madeira and the *Norfolk* and the *Duke of Richmond* off the Cape. Fear that the Marathas sent by Balaji Rao to collect chauth may hinder the operations against Pondichery. Have directed Andrews to meet the General in command of the Marathas and by promises of future payments to prevail on him to defer his entrance into this province. Bare promises are not likely to secure this, but it is all we have to offer. The Nawab is poor; our treasury empty; and the state of affairs in Bengal uncertain. The Carnatic revenues constitute our sole resource and may be ruined by a Maratha raid. Yet should we raise the blockade, in order to protect the country, the French forces joined to the Marathas might do the same damage. There is but one way, and that is to lay Pondichery in ruins; and we must and will strain every nerve to accomplish that. News from Batavia of the despatch of 6 ships in June, with many men and 6 lakhs of rupees generally believed destined for Bengal. The news has been forwarded thither and Pigot will consult Steevens and Coote about it. Despatch of French prisoners to England. Bussy, Colonels Murphy and O'Kennely with their servants, a surgeon and 15 privates are sent by this ship. Captain Lindsay has been paid £ 30 for the passage of each officer but nothing for the privates. Bussy has protested against being sent to Europe.

Appended is a list of the packet (p. 158).

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC. LONDON, NOVEMBER 23, 1759. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 63, *pp.* 1—16 (*original*, 16 *pp.*)]

Send out the *Syren* snow (100 tons, 26 men) to carry special advices. Cite despatch of March 23, 1759. Capture of the *Grantham* by the French off the Cape. The *Ilchester*, damaged by storm, was forced into the Cape. Consequent delay in the arrival of Indian despatches. However Wynch has delivered the Madras Select Committee's despatch of October 2, 1758. Have also

received in the Bombay papers Madras Select Committee's letters of May 20 and August 10, 1758 and others especially letters of October 10, 1758 and February 21, 1759, with a letter from Lawrence, dated February 22, 1759. On February 17, 3 French men-of-war, the *Achilles* (64 guns), *Syren* (32 guns) and *Zephyr* (30 guns) sailed from the Cape for St. Helena, where they cruised to intercept our shipping. Four early China ships and 2 others were chased off the island by them, and on reaching the Bay of All Saints were blockaded there by the French ships which arrived 3 days after them. The plans of the Ministry will be communicated by the Secret Committee. The vigorous conduct of the war and the British success have led to preparations by the enemy to attempt an invasion of Great Britain. It is difficult to raise a sufficient number of men for national defence; and the Company is consequently embarrassed in its recruiting. Composition of the Secret Committee. Sixteen ships are to be taken up this season, of which 6 (the *Onslow*, *Royal Duke*, *Latham*, *Lord Mansfield*, *Falmouth* and *Prince Edward*) are for the Coast and Bay and 3 for the Coast and China. The Company's ship *Admiral Watson* is also fitted out for this season. One Coast and Bay ship is designed to sail at the end of November, 3 Coast and China ships about the middle of January and the remaining Coast and Bay ships about the middle of February. Usual orders regarding the despatch of China ships from Madras. Orders regarding ships for Sumatra and China. A new clause has been inserted in the charterparty to cover the settlement of damages and short deliveries; only the *Triton*, as a special case, has been allowed to pay such rate as demanded. There is another clause under which the Company shall pay the owners £10 for each passenger ordered on board by the Company's officers. This allowance is not to be paid when men are put on board to complete the ship's complement of men or for passengers otherwise allowed by charterparty to be brought home without allowances. Passengers permitted to go home on any of our ships must sign an agreement not to claim any wages for their voyage home. The Bombay ships have been made the subject of a new demurrage agreement. As stores, etc., for His Majesty's forces amount to 800 tons, and the recruits for our own forces occupy much tonnage, the exports of merchandise must be reduced and will consist of woollen goods, copper, lead and iron. No treasure will be sent out except for China and Sumatra. Export for Madras, 200 bales of cloth, 250 tons of copper and 40 of iron; for Sumatra, 80 tons of iron, 10 of steel; for Bengal, 1,000 bales of cloth, 50 of longells, 250 tons of

copper, 40 of iron, and 5 of steel; for Bombay, etc., 1,110 bales of cloth, 275 of longells, 390 tons of copper, 42 of iron and 10 of steel; for Sindh and Persia, 768 bales of cloth and 115 of longells; and for China, 538 bales of cloth and 600 of longells. Are sending no ship to Madeira this season principally for lack of tonnage, but should any ship touch there under convoy, she may take in what wine can be stowed. For the same reasons as last year, limit the despatch of treasure to China and Sumatra. Bombay has already drawn for £1,63,000 and further drafts are expected which should enable them to remit you a considerable surplus. In Bengal, much of the money due from the Nawab will be received. They also have drawn for large sums and will therefore be able to assist Madras. Orders accordingly have been given to those presidencies. If Madras can spare any treasure for China, it will be a signal service to the Company. Organisation of China supracargoes. The general Court of Proprietors on June 20, voted their thanks to Pocock and Steevens for their services to the Company in their engagements with the French fleet. Forward letters accordingly. Much regret the loss of Fort St. David; but as Lally's troops are much reduced, no anxiety is felt for Fort St. George. Should Fort St. David be recovered, nothing is to be spent on fortifications, but only just enough done to afford accommodation for a few of our servants employed in the investment. In acknowledgment of Caillaud's ability and good conduct, he was last season promoted Major. Are now endeavouring to obtain for him rank in the King's service. Although the Council's deliberations on Orme's conduct have not yet been received, yet the despatch of October 10 shows that it has been extremely bad. Do not understand why he proceeded on a French ship to the French Islands instead of coming home by the Cape. If he should return to Fort St. George, he should be sent to England by the first convenient ship.[1] Since the foregoing, have received the despatch of February 21, 1759, and copies of letters from Vansittart and Caillaud to Bombay giving accounts of the affairs in the Carnatic. Are much gratified that the enemy's schemes have been defeated. Applaud the gallant behaviour of the garrison, Pigot, Lawrence, Caillaud, Draper and Brereton. Will furnish your presidency with all the men and stores we can procure. The fortifications of any French settlements taken must be entirely razed. Will take due notice of Captains Glover and Samson's misbehaviour, and of Captain Inglis's good conduct. Appoint as

[1] Cf. Love's *Vestiges*, vol. ii., p. 513.

writers, Anthony Sadleir, Alexander Davison, Peter Jackson, Morgan Williams, William Cuming, Richard Fyfe and Donald Ross, to rank in that order. Charles Hopkins, who is said to be residing at Madras, has been appointed a writer in Sumatra. Direct that the Select Committee shall consist of George Pigot or the President, Lawrence, Caillaud, William Perceval, and Henry Vansittart. Notwithstanding the orders of March 23, Caillaud is to be a constant member of the Select Committee. Walton Steevens (nominated a factor in Bengal) is permitted to remain in Madras till he has settled his affairs. It was not intended that Vasserot should suffer in his rank. Though Captain Smith's disobedience is no recommendation, we would not disgust other officers, and the Council should therefore use such expedients as may satisfy all, either by continuing Vasserot next to Gurtler and removing their juniors to other presidencies or by any other just and equitable measure. Arrival of shipping. Bengal Cadets. Will send on the *Onslow* about 60 recruits levied with the utmost difficulty, as very high bounties are being offered for the King's service. In consequence of Vansittart's abilities he is nominated to succeed Clive as President of Bengal whither he is to depart with all possible expedition. In consequence of Call's unwearied diligence in the defence of Madras, he is appointed Chief Engineer on the resignation or death of Brohier.

Appended are (1) copies of letters from the Court to Pocock and Steevens conveying the Company's sense of their services (pp. 17—19); (2) list of French Indiamen that were at the Cape and at the Mauritius during the last season, prepared from the news at the Cape. April 21, 1759, &c.:—[pp. 149—151].

Ships.	Guns.	Commanders.	Men.
At the Cape of Good Hope.			
Illustre	54	De Rues	600
La Fortune	54	L' Obry...	600
Centaur	54	Surville	550
Duc d' Orleans	50	Surville (Junior)	400
La Baleine	40	La Londe	200
L' Elephant	30	Wenslaus	150
Le Chameau	30	Ommeral	150
Hermione	26	Morphy	130
Penelope	26	Tremigon	130
La Renommée	18	St. Martin	100
Le Condé	60	Rosbo	336
Vengeur	64	Paliere	500
Grantham Prize	...	... ...	...
L' Achilles	64	Mariniere	500
Zephyr	30	De Grasso	250
Syren	32	De Brossy	252

Ships.	Guns.	Commanders.	Men.
At the Mauritius.			
Zodiaque	74	D' Aché	...
Minotaur	74	La Quille	...
Active	64	... ...	...
Comte de Provence	74	La Chaise	...
Duc de Bourgogne	60	D' Aprés	...
St. Louis	60	Johannes	...
Sylphide	30		
Moras	50		
Argenson	60		
Duc de Berry	50		
Seichelle	50		

DESPATCH FROM THE SECRET COMMITTEE TO THE SELECT COMMITTEE AT MADRAS. LONDON, NOVEMBER 23, 1759. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol. 2, pp.* 4–6 (*original,* 2½ *pp.*) *in cipher. Decipher of the same, ibid., pp.* 7—9.)]

Despatch the *Syren* with the news that His Majesty is despatching the *Norfolk* (74 guns) and *Panther* (60 guns), in about a fortnight to the assistance of Admiral Pocock, calling at the Brazils in order to see the [homeward bound] China ships well off that coast. Pocock should be informed of this and also that we are promised an old 40 gun-ship with masts and stores for the use of the Squadron and a 50 gun-ship to convoy her. These will sail about February. Mr. Secretary Pitt has promised us 1,200 soldiers, whether in battalion or not is uncertain. Have desired if possible that they may be in companies as they may then be more easily divided among the presidencies. The distressed state of the French and the superiority secured by our Squadron, should enable some judicious plan to be formed for extirpating the French on the Coast, with such help as the other presidencies can give. When this has been done, the Islands should be attacked. Believe that Mauritius may be destroyed, thus ending the French power in the East Indies. 'We never mean to keep them, and indeed a peace might put it out of our power. But if the fortification and above all the harbour of Mauritius be ruined and destroyed . . . they can never do us much mischief.' Shall endeavour by our next ships to send orders to the Admiral on this head. He will have no less than 16 ships of the line. The Bombay Select Committee is fully informed of these intentions; but that of Bengal is only ordered to give assistance when applied for.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC. LONDON, DECEMBER 7, 1759. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 63, *pp.* 21–22 (*original*, 2 *pp.*)]

Cite despatch of November 23. Since then, the British fleet has defeated and dispersed the French fleet from Brest designed to cover the invasion of England. It is hoped that the enemy will now be compelled to submit to peace. The war however is to be continued with vigilance and activity for your own defence and the annoyance of the enemy. Greatly appreciate the services of Captain William Hislop in the defence of Madras. On the application of the friends of Thomas Lane (Writer), have permitted him to remove to Bengal, in order to continue him under the supervision of Vansittart. Three French ships cruising in the Bay of All Saints returned to Brest in November. Samuel Juce, Merchant, entertained Cadet at Madras.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC. LONDON, FEBRUARY 15, 1760. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 63, *pp.* 23—51 (*original* 29 *pp.*) *Incomplete.*]

Cite despatches of November 23 and December 7, 1759. Departure of ships to India. Have taken up 2 more ships for Bombay. The ships have not sailed to time, having been detained by contrary winds. Several outward bound ships have been allowed to carry trading guns, shot and flint for purchasing fresh provisions at Madagascar on the same conditions as before. Additions to the China Committee of supracargoes. Do not consider that the lading of saltpetre on a vessel will injure her tea cargo. Approve of the refusal of the Council to order the commanders of our shipping to give Pocock 30 men each. Such orders would have made the Company responsible for any subsequent loss. His pressing 20 men out of each ship was an act of authority no way in your power to prevent. Approve the discharge of a vessel freighted at Bengal at the exorbitant rate of 5,000 Rs. a month to carry stores to the Negrais. Complain that the *Admiral Watson* sent home from Bombay had too small a cargo to pay for the expense of sending her out to India. In regard to the Company's own ships despatched homeward from Madras, they should be principally laded with fine goods. Are employing more ships than usual this season to carry out the military forces granted by His Majesty. The presidencies in India must do their utmost to lade them home as soon as possible.

As the China shipping will arrive late in Fort St. George, they must be despatched with the utmost expedition. Commanders of ships in need of ballast, owing to the quantities of shot, shells, etc., to be landed, must be assisted to get stone or shingle.

Consign to Madras 200 bales of woollen goods, and, as we have received no indents this season, 250 tons of copper, 40 of lead, 40 of iron, 540 of shot and shell, 400 barrels of gunpowder, 6,000 small arms, with a packet of cartridge boxes and flints, together with many other goods and stores. The great tonnage required for His Majesty's stores, etc., must curtail the amount of lead and iron sent. In future, the barrel, lock and bayonet of small arms sent out, will be engraved with the Company's mark. Are directing the presidencies to supply the Sumatra Council with such military stores as are needed there and can be spared. Medicines, etc., have been supplied by the same firms as last year. Account of remains of stores usually sent in the book packets, must, in future, be sent in the same packet as the indents. Are sending 123 chests of silver to Canton, and 20 to Sumatra. Regarding the deficiency in the treasure sent from Bengal, mentioned in the Madras despatch of October 10, 1758, it will be adjusted with the owners of the Company's ships and proper notice taken of this carelessness to the Council at Fort William. Regarding the Madras complaints that square or pillar dollars are 5 dwts. worse than standard instead of 3, and round or Mexico dollars are worse by 5½ instead of 4 dwts. it is ascertained from assays made at the Tower that both sorts are practically of the same fineness, viz ,,5 dwts. worse than standard. At this rate they are to be delivered to the mint contractors. Deficiency at Madras of saltpetre from Bengal. Palmer and the Canton Council, in their letter of December 15, 1758, informed the Madras Council that the *St. Catherine* in the Madras roads had taken in 120 pieces of French scarlet cloth consigned from Pondichery to a Frenchman at Canton. Recommend the Council to take all precautions against such clandestine trade. Any Company's servants concerned will incur our highest displeasure.

Send a list of the investment for the ensuing season. Are glad to observe the inclusion of Bassapah Chetti among the contractors for the Madras investment. The 1,740 bales laded on the *Grantham*, and the 900 bales expected from the January ship, form a reasonable quantity in the existing state of affairs. Hope the next investment will be conducted in more favourable circumstances. Unfortunately, as the *Grantham* was lost and as the other bales were not laded as proposed, we are entirely deprived of all

cloth from your Coast this season. A sufficient stock of saltpetre must be kept on hand for the shipping. If you cannot procure longcloth, ordinary and middling, as directed, the Bengal Council must be directed to provide a proportionately increased quantity of gurrahs instead of longcloth ordinary, and the Bombay Council to provide white Anjengo salampores instead of longcloth middling.

Though steps have been taken for holding a Congress, there is little prospect of a speedy peace. The French seemed determined to do their utmost this year to retrieve their losses. The enemy's designs are confined chiefly to Europe. It is not supposed that they can send any considerable forces to the East. Have not heard of any ships sailing to India since those despatched January 23, 1759, except the *Massac* (piered for 74 guns, but mounting 26 twelve-pounders), *Duc de Chartres* (piered for 60 guns, mounting 24), *Compagnie des Indes* (piered for 54 guns, mounting 24), *St. Luc* (piered for 24 guns, mounting 18), which sailed from L'Orient bound for Pondichery March 22. One of them was taken by His Majesty's ship *Windsor*. It does not appear they carried any soldiers. Trust that our naval superiority in India, together with the assistance of Draper's battalion, has enabled the English greatly to distress the French; and the reinforcements now sent will, it is hoped, enable you to give a good account of Pondichery itself. The French conduct must have alienated all the country powers. Trust you have made a proper use of this, by cultivating their friendship. Although the Company must have sustained severe damage by the siege of Fort St. George, yet we owe the saving of the place to your good conduct and the gallant behaviour of the garrison. Expect a strict and impartial report on the loss of Fort St. David. Enquire whether officers of the *Triton* and *Bridgewater* should receive any consideration for doing duty at St. Davids. Are informed by Palk that the *Grantham's* packet included letters from the Nawab to His Majesty and the Company. Palk has delivered copies of both. Send an answer to the Company's letter with a present of a microscope, a reflecting telescope, a large magnifying glass or zograscope with slides, and a camera obscura. Shall transmit His Majesty's answer when received. The Company's letter, etc., must be presented in a handsome manner as a testimony of our good regard and suitably to the dignity of the sender.

Admit the expense amounting to 18,150 Pags. for demolishing houses in the Black Town to enlarge the Esplanade round the Fort. Public notice is to be given that any houses hereafter built which may endanger the fortifications will be demolished at the owner's

charges. In spite of the cost, Fort St. George must be restored to such a condition as will render it capable of defence in case of any future attack. Urge the need of economy and frugality. Leasing out uncultivated grounds to Europeans or others for improvement is a judicious measure, so long as it is not 'merely to gratify the vanity and folly of merchants in having the parade of country houses and gardens'. These should be enjoyed only by the Governor and the principal persons in Madras. Cannot conceive that Mackay, to whom land was recently granted, will turn out a planter. Regret the loss of the Devikottai revenue, and the decline of the St. Thomé and Poonamallee revenues. Trust that they will improve with the success of our arms. Approve Council's conduct in not permitting Numboor Venkatasubbayya to take up the Poonamallee country, as his circumstances were insufficient to undertake so great a concern. Even when 10,375 Pags. had been deducted from his rent as compensation for his losses due to the troubles, he still owed the Company 11,000 Pags. Trust that this sum will be recovered. Approve of the suspension of the arrack farms to prevent drunkenness among the military. The decrease in the number of men in the hospital fully justifies it. The farm may be suspended in future whenever expedient.

Appointment of writers previously mentioned. Send list of persons proceeding as free merchants, etc. As covenanted servants advance in station, they must be required to write home for additional security; and our junior servants on coming of age must execute new covenants. These directions are to be treated as Standing Orders. Appoint the Rev. Mr. Merefield, lately chaplain to Admiral Steevens, to a chaplaincy at Madras in place of the Rev. Mr. Robert Palk. Recommend William Stewart and Patrick Edwards to be appointed Surgeons should vacancies occur. The first is in India with Clive. The other goes out as Surgeon on the *Earl Temple*. Appointment of the Council and Select Committee of Bengal.

Sumatra affairs.

The only Company's recruits sent out this season for Madras are 60 men on the *Onslow*. But for His Majesty's reinforcements, none of the presidencies could have received recruits, owing to the demand for the national service. His Majesty, on our application, has promoted Lawrence and Clive to the rank of Colonels in the East Indies; and John Caillaud Lieutenant-Colonel in the East Indies. Have also secured

promotions for Draper, Brereton and Monson. Are concerned to find that the information supplied the Company by Vasserot regarding the price of horses for the troop and the cost of maintenance was mistaken. In consideration of Council's assurance of the troops being maintained on the most reasonable footing, approve the contract with Vasserot mentioned in the Madras despatch of October 10, 1758. Order the annual transmission of a list of all military officers arranged according to rank, showing dates of their respective commissions with remarks when necessary. As Vasserot refused a Captain's commission in Colonel Prevost's corps in order to join the Company's service, with the rank mentioned in despatch of December 29, 1756, direct that he be ranked next to Captain Achilles Preston. The officers thus superseded are to be informed of the circumstances under which this promotion is made. As Gurtler has already accepted a commission under men junior to him, he cannot reasonably urge the date of his lieutenancy, but he is to be assured that his ready acquiescence will merit our esteem. Approve permission given to Claud Russell, Marmaduke Best, and John Crawford to proceed to China for their health. But such indulgence should not be allowed except where really necessary. Regarding 'Mr. Orme's dastardly and iniquitous conduct,' consider the discovery as a fortunate circumstance, due to Pigot. Orme is said to have extorted large sums from the Madras merchants. If so, any of his property may be seized for their compensation. Men guilty of such conduct are to be obliged to make restitution and immediately dismissed. Do not understand Orme's idle assertion 'of his having been longer postponed than he expected.' If he refers to the Chair, his nomination to succeed was only in case of accident. Pigot may be assured of our favour 'so long as he administers our affairs with honour and integrity.' Estate of Robert Hindley, Deputy Governor of Fort Marlborough. Regarding the estate of John Savage of Fort Marlborough, have paid his representatives the sum (1,116 dollars) credited to him in the Fort Marlborough books of 1740. Much regret the loss of the books, etc., on the *Grantham*. [*Pages missing.*]

Appended are :—

(1) List of investment to be provided for the 1759 shipping (pp. 121—125).

(2) Copy of commission appointing Stringer Lawrence, Colonel (p. 127).

(3) Copy of commission appointing John Caillaud, Lieutenant-Colonel (p. 129).

COPY OF LETTER FROM THE COMPANY TO THE NAWAB OF ARCOT. LONDON, FEBRUARY 15, 1760. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 63, *pp.* 53–54 (*copy*, 2 *pp.*)]

Acknowledge the receipt of the Nawab's letter, dated October 12, 1758, received by Palk. The original and the presents to the Company were lost on the *Grantham*. Have laid before His Majesty copy of the Nawab's letter which was graciously received. That to the French King has not been forwarded, as it would be contrary to custom to do so in time of war. His Majesty's forces now sent will, it is hoped, enable the Nawab, with our Governor and Council, to terminate the long and expensive war. The Company has expended immense sums in the support of the Nawab and believes that he will earnestly endeavour to repay them as soon as possible. Send presents (as detailed in the despatch of this date).

COPY OF LETTER FROM HIS MAJESTY KING GEORGE II TO THE NAWAB OF ARCOT. LONDON, FEBRUARY 21, 1760. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 63, *p.* 55 (*copy*, 1 *p.*)]

Acknowledge the receipt of letter of October 12, 1758. It is our invariable and permanent resolution to continue firm to our allies in every part of the world. Great is the success of our arms in America and in Europe. We have directed the East India Company to establish you in the peaceful possession of your provinces 'May He that covereth the head in the day of Battle continue to protect you.'

DESPATCH FROM THE SECRET COMMITTEE TO THE SELECT COMMITTEE AT MADRAS. LONDON, FEBRUARY 15, 1760. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol.* 2, *pp.* 10-11 (*original*, 1½ *pp.*)]

Besides the *Norfolk* and the *Panther*, His Majesty has ordered the *America* (64 guns), *Medway* (60 guns), *Liverpool* (28 guns), and *South Sea Castle* storeship (40 guns), to join Pocock. He is also sending 2,000 of his land forces to the East Indies. We trust that these considerable forces will be able to deal the enemy decisive blows, which should be properly concerted with His Majesty's officers and the select committees elsewhere. Although the plan of operations must depend on circumstances and the judgment of His Majesty's officers, yet the reduction of Pondichery must be an object meriting your immediate attention.

LETTER FROM GEORGE DUDLEY AND G. STEEVENS TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC. PORTSMOUTH, MARCH 1, 1760. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol.* 2, *pp.* 14–15 (*original*, 1½ *pp.*)]

Of the 640 men designed to complete Draper's battalion at Madras and Coote's at Bengal, 50 had to be put on board 2 of the King's ships, as you will be informed by Captains Backhouse and Scott who sail by the *Princess Augusta* and *Lord Mansfield*, respectively. Two French frigates, each of 32 guns, are reported bound from Brest to the East Indies.

LETTER FROM G. STEEVENS AND RICHARD WARNER TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC. PORTSMOUTH, APRIL 16, 1760. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol.* 2, *p.* 16 (*original*, 1 *p.*)]

Report having put on board the 5 Company's ships the 5 companies of Morris's Highland battalion, 503 strong.

Appended is a statement (pp. 17–18) of their distribution among the 5 East India ships:—On the *Prince Edward*, Major George Scott, Lieutenant Ralph Hanson, Ensign Mathias Calvert, and 95 others; on the *Latham*, Captain Alexander Duff, Lieutenant William Finlason, Surgeon's mate Arthur Sinclair, and 108 others; on the *Lord Anson*, Lieutenants Laurence Leith, John Gordon, Alexander Godsman, Bohus T. R. Maitland, and 108 others; on the *Sandwich*, Captain George Morrison, Lieutenants Alexander Stewart of Tinninvar, Alexander Stewart, George Campbell, and 109 others; and on the *Admiral Watson*, Captain William Mc Gilluray, Lieutenant William Baillie, Surgeon's mate Alexander Taylor, and 66 others.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC. LONDON, APRIL 2, 1760. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 63, *pp.* 57—64 (*original*, 8 *pp.*)]

Cite despatch of February 15, 1760 by the ships which sailed March 7 from Spithead. Arrival of ships. This goes by the Bengal ships now under despatch. Six hundred and forty men sent out on the Madras ships, and about the same number now sent on the Bengal ships, are all that can possibly be shipped to your side of India. The remaining 720 must be sent on the Bombay ships. The detachment of King's troops now proceeding consists of 575 men and officers, being 5 companies of a new battalion of Highlanders, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Staats Long Morris and Majors Munro and Scott. The other 4 companies going on the Bombay ships consist of 460 men and officers.

The Bengal detachment will be under the command of Major Scott, while Colonel Morris and Major Munro will sail on the Bombay ships with 4 companies. Usual orders regarding medical attendance, dieting, etc., for men and officers. Have agreed to allow Colonel Morris £400 a year, and Majors Scott and Munro £200 a year each, to cover house-rent and table, to commence from their arrival in India. The battalion will receive the same additional pay as the other King's troops on the Coast. As the Bengal ships may touch at Madras, you are to consider whether the troops should be brought to shore or sent on. Shall direct the Bombay Council to forward the detachment on their ships to Madras or Bengal as may appear desirable. Besides the 4 companies of Highlanders going to Bombay, there will be about 260 other men, but of what corps we do not know. They are to be on the same footing as the other King's troops. Forward His Majesty's Letter to the Nawab of Arcot. Regarding the lading of homeward ships, the quantity of saltpetre is left to the Council's discretion. Surplus cargo may be put on board, for every ship should be laded as far as possible to the same value. Although the Company's estimates show that Bengal and Bombay will be able to provide Madras with sufficient funds to carry on both the war and the investment, yet as the Madras despatches betray a fear that money may be wanting for these purposes, the rate of exchange may be raised from 7*s.* 8*d.* to 8*s.* a pagoda at which rate Council may draw bills up to £20,000 at 90 days' sight; above that amount at 12 months' sight bearing interest at 4 *per cent.* after 90 days' sight. As this is intended to benefit the settlement in general, this liberty is to be used in an equitable manner. These directions are to continue in force till further orders. Similar orders have been given to the other presidencies, permitting them to raise the rupee in Bengal from 27 to 28*d.* and in Bombay from 29 to 30*d.* The newspapers and private advices report that 2 frigates sailed with the first fair wind from L'Orient to the East, to be joined by 5 or 6 other ships containing the Regiment of Cambrai, one of the oldest and most complete battalions. Have no doubt that the first detachment of King's troops, the second now proceeding and His Majesty's ships will arrive in India before the French reinforcements. Newspapers also report the arrival at L'Orient on March 16th of the *Subtile* frigate from the Coast, with letters reporting an indecisive engagement between D'Aché and Pocock on September 10, and an engagement between the English and French near Arcot, in which the latter had the advantage. As private letters speak in other terms,

especially regarding the sea engagement, trust that this news is inaccurate. Regret the delay in receiving news of these important events. It is presumed that they have not been sufficiently important to require the despatch of a special ship.

Postscript dated April 3: In consideration of Call's abilities and services, direct that he be added to the Select Committee and always sit at the Council whenever military affairs are under consideration. New election of the Secret Committee.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC. LONDON, APRIL 18, 1760. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 63, *p.* 67 (*original* 1 *p.*)]

As Captain Charles Campbell returned to Europe with ample testimonials of his good behaviour, confirmed by Colonel Lawrence, he has been appointed Major on the Madras establishment under Caillaud, and in regard to other officers of that rank to take position from March 20, 1759. His pay as Major and Captain of a company is to be 15*s.* a day from his arrival. In case no company is vacant at that time, he will receive his 15*s.* a day and succeed to the first vacancy, from which time he will have the clothing of his company as usual. He will proceed on a Bombay ship.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC. LONDON, APRIL 18, 1760. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol.* 2, *pp.* 12–13 (*original* 2 *pp.*). *A duplicate occurs in Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 63, *pp.* 65–66].

By the despatch of February, Baron de Vasserot was appointed to rank before Captains Preston, Smith and Baker. As we have since learnt that these gentlemen distinguished themselves, and particularly Captain Preston in his gallant behaviour against the French, during the siege of Madras, direct that Vasserot be transferred to the Bombay establishment with rank as Captain from May 31, 1756, to command the Castle at Surat with pay and emoluments equal to what he enjoyed in the Coast. His Majesty having decided to grant Colonel's commissions to Brereton[1], Monson, Coote and Caillaud in the order named, Lord Barrington has written to Coote and Brereton to say that Coote is to retain the command until he departs for Bengal, which he is to do by the first proper conveyance, unless he chooses to stay on the Coast in a subordinate rank[1].

[1] Dodwell's *Dupleix and Clive*, p 186

THE MADRAS DESPATCHES, 1760-1761.

DESPATCH FROM GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, NOVEMBER 3, 1760. [*Military Despatches to England, Vol. 2, pp.* 159—165 (*copy, 7 pp.*)]

The *Ajax* sailed August 18. Cite despatches of July 31 and August 14. Pigot joined the army and with Coote visited Steevens on board the *Norfolk*. They represented that the assistance of the marines was absolutely necessary to take Ariyankuppam and at the same time blockade Pondichery, there being a large party of French and Mysoreans abroad with a considerable convoy. Steevens at last consented to land them. In the course of the preparations for attacking Ariyankuppam, orders arrived superseding Coote by Monson.[1] September 10 Monson being reinforced by part of the Highland regiment, attacked the enemy's outposts, took 17 guns and drove them under the walls of Pondichery. The English lost 115 men killed and wounded. Monson's leg was broken by a shot and he desired us to persuade Coote to resume the command. The latter was then preparing for his voyage to Bengal, and it was some days before he could be persuaded to return to camp. Meanwhile Major William Gordon in command having moved the detachment towards Ariyankuppam, the French blew up that fort and withdrew their garrison. Steevens then demanded the return of his marines; but in consequence of our losses in attacking the enemy's outposts, and many men having fallen sick by reason of the extraordinary fatigue, Coote requested Steevens to permit the marines to remain and desired us to urge him to the same purpose. As Steevens had been joined by 2 more ships of the line, and had then 15 capital ships, it was thought that he was strong enough to resist any attempt of the enemy. Copies of the correspondence with him are forwarded. At last he consented to leave his marines and 5 ships of the line now lying off Alambarai under Captain Haldane. He has quitted the Coast with the rest. The Council's letters have displayed all that decency and respect due to his rank and we did no more than our duty in urging him to do what appeared best for the service. According to his letter of October 15, he was resolved

[1] See *supra* p. 225.

to winter at Trinçomalee. He can hardly return till the middle of January.[1] Had he continued on the Coast, we might have taken Pondichery by that time. The enemy are reduced to great straits. They have few men, no money, and little food. But should their squadron arrive before Steevens returns, our 5 ships may be unable to prevent their reaching Pondichery. A few days before Steevens sailed, his boats cut out of the Pondichery roads the *Baleine* and *Hermione* frigates. Regret that Steevens has thought fit to exchange their crews for the sick and wounded captured at the Cuddalore hospital. A 50-gun ship, the *Compagnie des Indes*, was also lying in the roads, but was so protected by the batteries ashore that she could not be attacked. She has since put to sea; and as the 5 ships now remaining were lying too far away to observe her departure, it is feared that other ships may get in as easily as she got out. When the Mysoreans entered the Carnatic last June, Yusuf Khan was ordered to make inroads into the Mysore country nearest to him and Captain Richard Smith to move with part of the Trichinopoly garrison towards Karur in the hope of compelling the King of Mysore to recall his troops. By Smith's diligence and good conduct, Karur was taken, though his forces were very small for such an enterprise. About this time, the King of Mysore, with the assistance of the Marathas, expelled his prime-minister and general Haidar Nayak. His new minister Khande Rao wrote to the President and the Nawab, stating that Haidar Nayak was a rebel who had joined the French on his own authority. This revolution caused Matta Nayak, the Commander of Haidar's party, to return to Mysore, and engage the Marathas, thus freeing us from the fear of a Maratha incursion. Andrews who had reached Arcot on his way to the Maratha camp therefore returned. A vakil is expected from the King of Mysore. We are prepared to accept a sum of money in consideration of the return of Karur. The delay of ships from Bengal and the failure of supplies of money from Europe, compelled us to try our credit with the merchants, but a sum of only 47,000 Pags. was obtained. The Nawab was then called on to assist us with a lakh of Pags. Have since received from Bengal a lakh of rupees and the treasure by the *Triton*. These with the country rents and such further assistance as may come from Bengal will probably enable us to pay our army until Pondichery shall have been taken. If we fail in this, we shall probably be entirely ruined. Major Preston, with a detachment watching the enemy outside

[1] Because of the N.E. winds of the season.

Pondichery, reports that 100 Europeans and 6 companies of sepoys are at Gingee and that the remainder are at Tyagar. He himself lies near that place and has left a force to contain the Gingee garrison. The fort of Karikal has been entirely demolished. The Navy Captains present at the taking of Karikal have renewed their claims regarding the distribution of the plunder. Call has taken his seat in the Select Committee according to the Company's orders. The Nawab is at Madras on Pigot's invitation, as it was thought that the army will be better supplied with provisions and other requirements complied with more readily than would be the case were he at Arcot. Captains Hussey and Kearney of Lally's regiment with 15 privates are sent on this ship; also a man named Simon, formerly in the French service, not as a prisoner but as his presence is undesirable.[1] Are engaged in a very disagreeable dispute with Monson.[2] "From a dear bought and long experience we find these disputes will ever subsist, whilst there is a division of authority." The consequences will be bitterly regretted should they involve the relief of Pondichery. Send military returns.

Appended are lists of the packets (pp. 166—168).

DESPATCH FROM GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 4, 1761. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 23, *pp.* 1—4 (*copy*, 3½ *pp.*)]

Cite despatch of October 27, 1760. This goes by the *London* schooner, specially despatched to report the capture of Pondichery, particulars of which will be reported by our Secret Committee. Found it necessary to detain the *Falmouth* and *Admiral Watson*. Ships' movements. Two Company's ships arrived at Fort Marlborough, but, finding the place in possession of the French, sailed to Malacca. The loss of the Company's ships, the *Protector* and *Duke* in the gale of [January] 1, off Pondichery; and His Majesty's ships *Sunderland* and *Duke of Acquitaine*. The *Newcastle* and *Queenborough* drove ashore and bulged. Captain Baker now commanding the *London* schooner, came out chief mate of the *Porto Bello*, under Admiral Boscawen, and has continued in the Company's service ever since. He is recommended for his general good behaviour.

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[1] He was an officer who had deserted from the French service. Early in the year he had been employed in an attempt to surprise Gingee. *Coote's Journal*, February 16 and 26, 1760 (*Orme MSS. India*, Vol. viii, pp. 1923, etc.). Also Madras *Military Consultations*, March 10 and 17, 1760.

[2] *Military Consultations*, August 30, September 4, October 6, 12, 21 and 29, 1760.

Appended are :—

(1) list of the packets (p. 5);

(2) list of passengers, Gaudeville from Madras and Colonel Jumiliac from Pondichery (p. 5); and

(3) sailing orders to Captain John Baker of the *London* snow (pp. 6-7).

DESPATCH FROM GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 4, 1761. [*Military Despatches to England, Vol.* 3, *pp.* 1—12 (*copy*, 11½ *pp.*)]

Cite despatch by the *Shaftesbury*, [dated November 3, 1760]. This goes by the *London* schooner, to give the important news of the fall of Pondichery. In October 1760, Steevens left the Coast for Trincomalee, leaving behind the *America*, *Medway*, *Panther*, *Newcastle* and the *Duke of Acquitaine* to continue the blockade, so as to shut out all supplies by sea; and Residents were appointed at the several ports, both to the north and south of Pondichery, to hinder the French agents from sending provisions from the neutral settlements. At this time, the French ship *Compagnie des Indes*, was lying at Tranquebar collecting provisions. The *Medway* and the *Newcastle* took her out of the road and drove ashore a French schooner similarly engaged. At the same time, Colonel Coote maintained the blockade by land. But the principal danger arose from a large body of Balaji Rao's horse under Viswasi Punt, who, after settling affairs at Mysore, appeared at the *kanama* or pass in December. The French made large offers to persuade him to enter the province to oblige us to raise the siege, but the Nawab was induced to send his vakil with powers to treat and so secured us from that interruption.

On December 16, the *Liverpool* and *Revenge* arrived from Trincomalee and on the 25th Steevens himself reached Pondichery with the *Norfolk*, *Sunderland*, *Falmouth*, *Protector* and *Queenborough*. But on January 1, a violent gale arose in which the *Duke of Acquitaine* (Sir William Hewit), the *Sunderland* and the *Duke* (storeship), foundered, and only 3 or 4 sailors and some lascars were saved. The *Newcastle*, *Queenborough* and *Protector* were driven ashore near Ariyankuppam, but the crews were saved and most of the stores recovered. The *America*, *Medway*, *Falmouth* and *Panther* rode out the storm with the loss of all their masts. Steevens in the *Norfolk* and the *Liverpool* frigate put to sea. The *Norfolk* received little damage, and the other lost her masts. The *Fort William* schooner, has not since been heard of.

The enemy took no advantage of this. About a week after, Cornish with the *Lenox*, *Grafton*, *York*, *Weymouth*, *Salisbury*, *Compagnie des Indes* and *Tyger*, joined Steevens off Pondichery. The damaged ships were repaired and ready to act in the line in case the enemy's Squadron appeared. A further supply of provisions was sent by the *Falmouth*. It was resolved to push the siege and use the utmost vigilance in keeping provisions out of Pondichery. Call proceeded to camp. On December 9, 3 ricochet batteries played into the Town, before the principal attack was opened on the north. On Coote's invitation, and in order to be at hand to vindicate the Company's rights, Pigot proceeded thither on January 7 and reached camp on the 9th. Next morning, a battery of 10 pieces of heavy cannon and 3 mortars opened a successful fire on the north-west bastion. Deserters came off continuously, depicting in lively colours the distress and general discontent of the garrison. On the 15th an advanced battery was opened within 500 yards of the walls. That evening, deputies came out with offers to surrender the place. On the morning of the 16th, Coote's grenadiers took possession of the Villiyanallur gate; and on the 17th the fort and citadel were delivered up, and English colours hoisted. Send copies of Lally's demands and Coote's answers with translations and 8 articles presented by the Deputies in the name of the Council, etc. Coote refused to subscribe to any of the articles, but promised to recommend to the Admiral to allow the European inhabitants to retain their movable effects. Coote having taken possession of Pondichery in the King's name, Pigot claimed its delivery to the Company. After some discussion on the legality of this, Pigot demanded its immediate delivery. A special Council consisting of Coote and Steevens the King's field officers and some of the Captains of the Squadron, was assembled which was informed that the cession was demanded under the King's Patent of January 14, 1758. The town was delivered over to Pigot on January 24. Orders were immediately issued for its destruction. The same will be done with any other forts belonging to the French which might be reclaimed in case of peace. The number of French prisoners amounts to 3,000 and their despatch to Europe is very necessary. Will send away Lally and de Leyrit by the first conveyance. The Admiral and Coote having each appointed three commissaries to take charge of the booty, the council also nominated 3—James Bourchier, Claud Russel and John Whitehill—on behalf of the Company. It has been resolved that the inhabitants may keep their

jewels, apparel, furniture, etc., but are to deliver in an inventory on oath of their merchandise, of which the Commanders-in-chief will retain what they think proper. The Admiral proposes to sail to Bombay with his squadron, as, if he remained this year on the Coast, it would be impossible to equip his squadron for service next year. He will return the *Elizabeth* and *Baleine* as soon as they are repaired, and the rest one by one as they get ready. He has also offered to undertake the siege of Mahé and will convey the necessary stores with an Engineer thither. He will also receive aboard 400 French prisoners to be landed at Bombay. The supplies of money from Bengal enabled us to keep the army in the field until the reduction of Pondichery. Most of the army is now cantoned, except the detachment reducing Gingee. Forward a letter from Bengal regarding the revolution there. As the French offers to the Marathas were very high, the Nawab's vakil was obliged to promise 10 lakhs of rupees to be paid out of the Nawab's last assignment. This expense was well-warranted by its object. It is believed that the Nawab will be able to perform his promises of discharging his debt to the Company provided we captured Pondichery. Haidar Nayak who lately rebelled against the King of Mysore, having compromised with the Marathas, has collected a powerful army to oppose the English. He will probably be joined by the French detachment under Major Allen who was during the siege attempting to keep communications open with Pondichery. The Karur district is still in our possession. The *Neptune*, *York*, *Earl Temple* and *London* have arrived at Anjengo; Major Campbell has come overland to Pondichery. In November last deputies from Tranquebar demanded satisfaction for the seizure of the *Compagnie des Indes* in their roads. The Council replied that Steevens probably considered that Lally's violations of neutrality in seizing Sadras from the Dutch and making prisoners of British subjects found there, and also in seizing a Dutch ship and employing her against us during the siege, warranted him in making reprisals of the same nature; that the Council know nothing more about the matter, but imagined that the dispute must be settled in Europe. It is not known what has hindered the French fleet from coming to the relief of Pondichery. In view of its possible arrival after the departure of our Squadron, Pondichery has been garrisoned with 500 soldiers, as many sepoys, and 60 of the train. Pigot returned to Madras February 1, leaving Du Pré in the management till the town has been demolished.

Appended are lists of the packets (pp. 13—15).

DESPATCH FROM GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, MARCH 6, 1761. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 23, *pp.* 8—24 (*copy* 17 *pp.*)]

Cite despatch of February 4 by the *London* snow. [This goes by the *Onslow.*]

Shipping news.

On December 15, 1760, we sold 54 bales of broadcloth for 5,961 Pags.; 175 candies of copper fine for 13,657 Pags.; and 275 of copper coarse for 20,902 Pags. Supplies of treasure from Bengal have not been considerable, though we are well convinced that the Council there have done everything in their power. The Bombay Council reports that they will send some money but they have not stated the amount. Drafts on us for 192,000 Spanish dollars on your account are very embarrassing at this moment; but most of the gentlemen to whom the bills are payable will probably be willing to accept our bonds. Have not yet decided how the stores landed at Malacca by the *Norfolk* and *Richmond* are to be brought back. Send no indents of military stores by this ship as our former indent together with the stores taken at Pondichery will suffice for the present.

The want of cash has greatly hindered the investment, and the old merchants, so far from bringing in cloth without advances, have not yet cleared off their old balances. Most of the cloth has been brought in by Basavappa Chetti and Arunagiri Chetti. The latter is a newly employed merchant who brought 5,546 Pags. worth of cloth without advances which is still unpaid for. The former has delivered in goods to the value of 43,308 Pags. for which only 36,257 Pags. have been paid. Send only 436 bales of piece-goods by this ship.

News from Bengal of the defeat of the Shah Zada. Other political news will be furnished by the Secret department. 'It shall be our principal study to keep the sword sheathed.'

Lack of money has prevented progress on our fortifications. The Engineer's letter shows what progress has been made in destroying the enemy's works. The Company's sea, land and mint customs last year were higher than they have been since the re-establishment of this settlement. Hope that the destruction of Pondichery will increase the revenues and trade of Madras.

At the request of the Bengal Council have seized Lewis de Costa, Brohier's clerk, and shall return him to Bengal.[1] Mr.

[1] Brohier, who was in charge of the works at Fort William, fled suddenly to Ceylon. It was thought that his clerk could throw some light on his defalcations.

Macklaclin, late an ensign, now goes home as a charterparty passenger. He has been very troublesome while in service. Request that the Company may make more careful enquiries about persons permitted to come out to India, as many applications are made to the Company on behalf of men who are troublesome at home. By the *Ajax*, reported the conduct of Edwards, Assaymaster, who has filed a suit against Josias Dupré while acting as Assistant Mint Master. A decree was passed in favour of Edwards, but an appeal will be made.

Have taken up upon bond a further sum of 32,000 Pags. and we shall be obliged to request the owners of the Manilla voyage to receive bonds for 192,000 Spanish dollars which were forwarded by them on your account to China. Send the accounts current of the merchants &c. General books are not yet ready.

Sumatra affairs: Report the loss of Fort Marlborough and its dependencies.

Peter Mariette has been chosen Mayor and James Hay Sheriff. New Commissioners on the Court of Requests are:—Charles Smith, Abraham Browne, Thomas Pelling, Edward Raddon, Edward Stracey, Richard Latham, Francis Jourdan, Richard Fyfe, Anthony Sadleir, Alexander Davidson and Edward Jane. The Court of Aldermen desire Council's opinion may be taken on their queries regarding the probate of wills and letters of administration.

On February 23, Admiral Steevens sailed from Pondichery for Tellicherry. As Colonel Morris has not arrived, Major Scott commands his regiment and is receiving allowances as Lieutenant-Colonel. His Majesty's and the Company's land forces are mostly in garrison, and, if necessary, part will be sent to Bengal. Coote himself proceeds thither, as Colonel Monson is now well enough to undertake the command. Captain Hislop of the Royal Artillery now goes home. A few months ago he received permission to return to England from the Board of Ordnance, but, in spite of ill-health, would not make use of that liberty until the siege of Pondichery was over. He merits any favour the Company can bestow on him.

Supplement: Captain Hinde has been paid £30 each for the passage of Lally and the other gentlemen he carries home by our orders. Lally will certainly be an expensive passenger. Recommend the captain for some allowance accordingly. His Majesty's officers returning to Europe are certainly entitled to passages at the Company's expense. Ships' captains consider £30 too little,

and no doubt they must be at a considerable expense. Considering the great cost of the passages of the whole body of King's officers even at £30, trust that the Company will find some other means for recompensing the ship's captains, than that of increasing passage money; but trust that they will not be permitted to make good their losses by obliging the civil servants to pay the exorbitant amounts which at present really demand your notice. It does not matter for those who go home with large fortunes; but want of health obliges many a good man to return with a slender competency, and many too send children home for education. The commander of this ship has been very extravagant in the case of children's passages. Diamonds registered amount to 58,918 Pags. The cash balance is 19,225 Pags.

Postscript: Bills drawn on the Company amount to 8,478 Pags.

DESPATCH FROM GEORGE PIGOT &C., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, MARCH 6, 1761. [*Military Despatches to England, Vol.* 3, *pp.* 16—22 (*copy*, 7 *pp.*)]

Cite despatch of February 4, 1761. This goes by the *Onslow*. The major part of the army is cantoned at Cuddalore, Pondichery and Madras. A detachment under Captain Smith [. . .] blockades Gingee. Major Preston is investing Tyagar. The province is now tranquil. This will afford the Nawab every advantage for the collection of the revenues. Steevens left Pondichery, February 23, with all the Squadron for Bombay. He will call at Tellicherry to make preparations for an attack on Mahé. Major More, 2 engineers, the pioneer Company and some lascars embarked with artillery and stores. It is possible that the troops brought to Tellicherry by the Bombay ships of last season, intended to be sent to assist at the siege of Pondichery, will be detained there on the news of its capture; this force with the detachment from Bombay and the detachment despatched from Pondichery on February 4, for Tellicherry, will form a sufficient body to undertake the siege of Mahé. Part of the Pondichery booty has already been sold at outcry. The guns and military stores will be brought to Madras. Recommend that the Company should obtain a gift of them from His Majesty to the Company. The Company's officers have never disputed its rights to them, but the Navy is giving infinite trouble. 400 French prisoners were embarked on the Squadron and some officers on the *Mansfield* and *Sandwich*. All ships that cannot be freighted this season will be employed in transporting prisoners. A few days after the

surrender of Pondichery, Lally arrived at the Mount where he stayed for some time. A few days ago, he took up his quarters at the Company's gardens. He has been treated with all civility and respect, but, though he is averse to sailing on this ship, the step is thought necessary. He has written 2 very extraordinary letters accusing us in the grossest terms of ill-treatment. No reply was made, in order to avoid fruitless discussion when the ship was on the point of sailing. Pigot reports, regarding the affair of Dubois, that on his second visit to Lally, Pigot acquainted him that he must be sent to England on the *Onslow* about February 20. Lally objected, offering to consent to any other conveyance. Later on he desired pen and paper in order to write about Dubois' murder. Pigot informed him of what had passed between himself and the Pondichery Council on the subject which was as follows:—That he ordered depositions to be taken regarding Dubois' death; but as the Pondichery Council was desirous that none of the papers of Dubois should be lost, the Procureur du Roi was allowed to inspect them. Soon after, the latter and others of Council becoming very troublesome, Pigot showed them the room in which the papers were locked up, and putting the key in his pocket told them that as soon as any one had had leisure to inspect them and see whether they contained anything useful to the English, he would on proper application give up the remainder, in case they contained matter needed to clear their characters, but that if he was troubled further he would have them burnt. On this Lally started and asked whether he meant to destroy the King's papers. Pigot replied that they were nothing to him and that when Lally took Fort St. David, he would not permit even the balance sheet of the Company's cash account to be brought up. This is the substance of what passed. Depositions regarding Dubois' death shall be sent by the same ship as the man who killed him. This accident happened when Lally was leaving Pondichery. Many French officers were assembled on the parade who greeted him in the most abusive terms, but did not offer to stop him. Soon after Dubois, while passing over the drawbridge from the citadel to the parade, heard one of the officers mention him insultingly, drew his sword, and challenged any of them to fight. One offered himself and was slightly wounded before he could draw his sword; but immediately afterwards he ran Dubois through the body. These are believed to be the facts. The Pondichery people call it a rencontre, and Lally a premeditated assassination. News from Bengal of the defeat of the Shah Zada. Coote proposes to proceed to Bengal, but it is not

intended immediately to send any portion of his regiment, as it is hoped to be able to attempt the plan recommended in your despatch of November 23, 1759.[1] Considerable progress has been made in the demolition of Pondichery and its fortifications. News of the defeat of the Marathas by the Pathans [at Panipat].

Appended are lists of the packets (pp. 23–24).

DESPATCH FROM GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, MARCH 8, 1761. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 23, *p.* 25 (*copy*, 1 *p.*)]

Have received news by way of Trichinopoly that Mahé capitulated to Major Hector Munro on February 10. In regard to Secretary James' letter containing directions concerning the transit of Venus over the Sun's disc, we have fortunately some gentlemen who will recommend themselves to you on this occasion. Regret however the lack of a good time-keeper with instruments, etc., for adjusting its motions by apparent time.

Appended are :—(1) letter to St. Helena, dated March 7 (p. 26); (2) manifest of piece-goods sent home by various convenanted servants some of which were directed to the Jerusalem Coffee House, London (p. 27); (3) list of Company's military officers on the Coast, dated March 7, 1761 (pp. 28-29); (4) list of the packet (pp. 33-37); (5) register of diamonds, etc., on the *Onslow* (pp. 38—41); and (6) sailing orders to Captain Thomas Hinde of the *Onslow* (pp. 42—43).

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC. LONDON, NOVEMBER 5, 1760. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 64, *pp.* 25–26 (*original*, 2 *pp.*)]

This goes by H.M.S. *Sea Horse via* Bencoolen. Death of King George II on October 25. Proclamation of George III. Printed copy enclosed for proclamation in all the Company's settlements.

Appended is a letter from William Pitt to the Company, dated October 29, 1760, enclosing copies of the proclamation, dated October 25. (pp. 143–146).

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC. LONDON, DECEMBER 31, 1760. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 64, *pp.* 27—54 (*original*, 28 *pp.*)]

This goes by the *Hawke*, before the rest of the Coast and Bay ships, in order to convey some general information and directions.

[1] Viz., the attack on the Isles.

Cite despatches of November 23, December 7, 1759, February 15, April 2, and 18, and May 30, 1760. Since the last despatch, 18 Indiamen have arrived safely, besides 2 packet sloops, the *Diligent* and *Prince Henry*. Personnel of the Secret Committee. Have determined to raise Fort Marlborough into an independent presidency under a Governor and Council like the rest. Direct the removal of control from Madras, but you are to contribute everything in your power to assist in the supply of goods as in times past. Name persons for the Council of Fort Marlborough. Steps are to be taken to prohibit opium being sent thither except on the Company's account. Name Canton supracargoes. Have taken up 15 ships this season, of which 5 (the *Hawke*, *Plassey*, *Warren*, *Fox*, and *Earl of Holdernesse*) are for the Coast and Bay, and one (the *Pitt*) is for the Coast and China. Our own ship the *Royal George* (Captain Nicholas Skottowe) proceeds to China on a particular service about the end of January, and will then proceed to Madras. The *Diligent* and *Prince Henry* sloops go to Madagascar to procure slaves for Fort Marlborough. Owing to the great tonnage required for stores for His Majesty's Ships and troops in India, have hired three large ships, two for the Coast and Bay and one for Bombay, for the voyage outwards only. Shall send particular directions regarding their despatch to the presidencies of consignment. Export for Madras, 398 bales of cloth, 15 of long ells, 16 of camblets and alopines, 300 tons of copper, 40 of lead, 40 of iron and 1½ of steel; for Bengal, 1,609 bales of cloth, 250 of long ells, 1,000 pieces of ditto 1½ yards wide, 30 of velvets, 500 tons of copper, 40 of lead, 40 of iron and 5 of steel; for Bombay, 1,200 bales of cloth, 239 of long ells, a few pieces of camblets and velvets, 580 tons of copper, 30 of lead, 40 of iron, and 10 of steel; for Sindh, 276 bales of cloth, 77 of long ells, a few velvets, 4 casks of cochineal, and 3 or 4 tons of elephant's teeth; for Gombroon, 189 bales of cloth, 60 of long ells and shalloons; and for Basra, 418 bales of cloth, and 160 of long ells and shalloons. Besides these, send on His Majesty's account, naval and victualling stores from eleven to twelve hundred tons, half on the Madras shipping, half on the Bombay shipping, 80 tons of clothing for the King's troops and 2 for the Artillery. The rest of the tonnage will be occupied by military recruits and goods sent on the Indian indents. Send to Madras 600 barrels of gunpowder. In these circumstances, it will be impossible to send any Madeira wine. Alterations in the ships' charterparty, regarding exact inquiry into damages and short deliveries.

Freights have been increased by 40s. a ton, and for demurrage a penny a day *per* ton, so that the war demurrage is now 10d. In future the excess cost of lascars hired to replace seamen impressed by the naval authorities in India will be borne two-thirds by the Company and one-third by the owners. As the Company has had to pay £30 each for passages from Bengal of Captain Muckle and Lieutenant Gouan of the King's train, in future whenever an order is given for any person to be received on board a freighted ship, it is to be expressly stipulated that the passengers shall pay their passages, except in the case of Company's invalids or discharged military sent home on charterparty terms of £10 a head. Many invalids have been sent home from Bengal under the impression that the Company would maintain them for life; but it must be remembered that we have no fund for such a purpose nor can we raise one. In particular cases small sums of money have been given, but an annual allowance cannot be made. Some of the invalid soldiers from Bengal were really capable of further service. Consignment of the ship's cargoes. Early despatch of the *Pitt* for Canton. As she is not capable of serving as a ship of war, she is now upon the same footing as our other mercantile ships, though much larger than any of them. The so-called casual ships sent to Canton because they cannot be laded home in India, should carry cargoes for the China market, if possible, of not less than £20,000 in value. As the China trade is 'our principal resource,' it is most important to feed it with plentiful remittances. As the Sumatra pepper is to be sent to China until further orders, no Europe ships are to be sent to Fort Marlborough to complete their cargoes. Shipping for Fort Marlborough. Persons from India are not to reside at Canton all the year round. No one is to be allowed to proceed with a view to staying there after the departure of the shipping. The *Royal George* will bring to Madras a cargo of camphor, sugar, tutenague, etc. It is to be sold publicly and an exact account of the produce and charges incurred are to be sent home, so as to determine the 5 *per cent.* commission on the net produce allowed to the supracargoes. The vessel when unladed is to be employed as shall seem best for the Company's service. Our principal object is that she may bring home early news of what is happening at this critical period in the different parts of India. She should be laded with sufficient cargo to earn the expenses of her voyage, but the value of the cargo should depend on the risks she is likely to run. She is not to be sent to Madagascar or Mozambique for slaves for Sumatra. Bombay shipping.

Urge the return of Company's ships the season of their arrival. As the Coast and Bay ships have no iron kintlage, they will need a larger proportion of saltpetre. Vessels had better be sent home 'something dead freighted' than detained an extra season. Any surplus tonnage must be evenly distributed. Forward a list of the investment for the ensuing season. Two persons have been deputed by the Royal Society to observe the transit of Venus over the Sun, June 6 next, from Fort Marlborough. They proceed by H.M.S. *Sea Horse*. Should they proceed to Madras, they are to be accommodated and dieted; and provided with passages home, their accommodation and diet at the Captain's table being paid by the Company in England. Presume that such persons as are qualified to make observations have been informed of the Company's orders sent out last year. As George Pigot desires permission to return home when peace is made, nominate Robert Palk as his successor. Have re-admitted John Pybus into the Company's service at Madras. The Council is to consist of:—George Pigot (President and Governor), Robert Palk, John Smith, Charles Bourchier, Dawsonne Drake, John Andrews, John Pybus, Richard Fairfield, Samuel Ardley, Charles Turner and Thomas Heath. In case of a vacancy in the Government, by the decease or departure of Pigot and Palk, Charles Bourchier is to succeed. Have appointed Lawrence who has been promoted by His Majesty to be Major General, as Commander-in-chief in India. Palk, Lawrence and Pybus will proceed by the next ships. Have appointed writers:—John Hollond (now at Madras), James Daniel, Nicholas Barnard, Neale Stonehouse and Quintin Crawford. Can send no recruits for the Company's forces on the Coast and Bay, as room is all taken up by His Majesty's recruits. Have appointed cadets:—Peter James Povery, William Biddulph, Robert Cotton, James Campbell, Yelverton Denis, Lewis Loyd, Peter Cranch, Thomas Madge, William Ley, Sackville, Corneille, William Johnson, Thomas Bonaker and William Skeggs. The defences at Fort Marlborough are to be designed by John Call, who should take thither with him a person qualified to conduct the works unless he considers that Charles Noble has learnt enough under Colonel Scott for that purpose. Send treasure only for Fort Marlborough and Canton, because (1) Madras is in a manner in possession of almost all the revenues of the Nawab's territories and those of the mortgaged territories; and early in 1760 had received larger remittances from Bengal than it could possibly

have used, so that it is expected that Madras will be able to assist Bengal with treasure for its investment; and (2) although Bombay reported that they could not furnish you with the necessary supply, we are certain that they were mistaken, having 'such a prodigious balance in their hands,' and must have already made large remittances to either Madras or Bengal. Each presidency must assist the others. If Madras really needs money, it should apply to other presidencies, particularly Bombay. Great successes over the French in all parts of the world during this year. Although the English overtures made last winter were rejected, it is hoped that the distress of the enemy will oblige them before the next compaign to agree to terms. Know of no French force proceeding in India this season. Congratulate Steevens, Coote and Monson on the advantages they have gained over the enemy on the Coast. Trust soon to hear that Pondichery itself has been taken. Scarcely anticipate that the Ministry will this year reinforce the East India Squadron; but 76 recruits are sent for Draper's battalion, together with 5 independent companies amounting to 600 men including officers. Troubles in Sumatra with the Achinese. In case the Chevalier Crillon should fall into our hands on the Coast, Mr. Secretary Pitt desires that he may be used in a gentlemanlike manner and accorded all the good services in our power. Since writing the foregoing, reports received overland dated May 27, state that the French retain nothing but Pondichery. At the same time, news has been received of 2 French ships-of-war off Sumatra. Trust that Steevens will have been able to protect the Sumatra settlements. Rumours in Paris that several French ships were lost or disabled in a hurricane off Bourbon. Probably our principal danger is now from straggling cruisers. The 76 recruits for Draper's battalion, commanded by Lieutenant Robinson, proceed on this ship, the officers' passage and diet having been paid in England. Enclose printed copy of officers' privilege, permitting them to carry out a certain amount of coral beads, pearls and precious stones which will be shown in the manifests. The Governor will receive the usual consulage of 2½ *per cent.* as on other private shipments of coral, etc.

Appended (p. 142) is a printed regulation, December 24, 1760, of the officers' privilege of trade. It allows on 499-ton ships on the outward voyage, tonnage ranging from 1 ton for gunners and carpenters to 56 tons 20 feet for the commander, and ranging in value from £50 to £3,000. Besides this, officers ranking from purser to the commander may invest sums ranging from £300 to

£2,000 in coral, amber and precious stones. Ships' officers are prohibited from importing into England all sorts of piece goods, raw cotton and silk, tea, turmeric and other articles of the Company's trade; on the homeward voyage tonnage is allowed ranging from 32 feet to 38 tons.

DESPATCH FROM THE SECRET COMMITTEE TO THE SELECT COMMITTEE AT MADRAS. LONDON, JANUARY 1, 1761. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol.* 2, *pp.* 18—21 (*original*, 4 *pp.*)]

Are pleased to learn by the overland despatch from Bombay, May 27 [1760], and private advices by way of Basra, that the French were much distressed and that Pondichery was likely soon to be invested. If the place should be in our hands on the receipt of this, the fortifications and works are to be completely razed. The Ministry have ordered a 50 or 60-gun ship to convoy the 3 Company's Coast ships bound to Sumatra in consequence of our uncertainty as to whether the settlements there are still in the hands of the French. In case Pondichery is in our possession, the Ministry approve the proposal to attack Mauritius and have directed His Majesty's commanders to co-operate with you. Measures are therefore to be concerted for an attack on Mauritius; and the Select Committee may requisition in our name such assistance as may be necessary from Bombay and Calcutta. In case of its success, repeat the directions for destroying the port and harbour, but cannon, warlike stores and slaves are to be transported to Bencoolen. Should Pondichery be taken, warlike stores, cannon, etc., belong to us alone and no individual can have right to them.

Postscript dated January 6: As the Admiralty informs us that a man-of-war cannot be spared for Sumatra, in case there appears to be any danger to the Company's ships proceeding thither, the Admiral is to be desired to detail a ship to give them the necessary convoy.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC. LONDON, JANUARY 21, 1761. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 64, *pp.* 55–56 (*original*, 2 *pp.*)]

Cite despatch of December 31, 1760 by the *Hawke* which sailed January 17. This goes by the *Pitt* which carries one of the companies of the King's troops under the command of Captain Nesham, consisting of 106 men, including officers. Officer's passage and diet have been paid here.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC. LONDON, MARCH 13, 1761. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 64, *pp.* 57—112 (*original*, 56 *pp.*)]

Cite despatches of December 31, 1760 and January 21, 1761. Now communicate the Company's orders on various transactions reported in the papers received last season.

Shipping news and miscellaneous directions. Regarding ships taken up for the outward voyage only, the Company is paying £7-10*s.* to £8 a ton, £10 a head for passage, and 1*s.* a day for diet. If ships are detained over 30 days at the port of consignment, the Company will have to pay demurrage at 8*d. per* ton *per* day. Short deliveries and ship's damages will be made good at 30 *per cent.* over the prime cost. On ships' discharge in India, they will be at the entire disposal of the owners, except that they may not be brought back to England or sold to the French or to any other European foreigners, or to any country powers, without the permission of the Company's authorities, for the observance of which proper security is to be taken. Two-thirds of the freight will be paid here and the remainder on delivery of the goods in India. Passage money for soldiers and charterparty passengers will be paid in England. Understand that many diamonds are brought home especially in our small packet ships, without having been registered. Public notice is to be given that all diamonds unregistered will be deemed illicit trade. Have bestowed a sum of £2,000 each on the crews of the *Calcutta*, *Hardwicke* and the *Duke of Dorset*, in reward for their gallant behaviour against the Dutch in the Hugli in 1759; also two months' pay to the crews of the *Royal George* and *Oxford* for intercepting three of the Dutch ships and the sloops attending the same. We are always ready to reward such real good services, but such rewards must be left to our determination. Will remember to reward Captain Inglis for his brave and prudent conduct. Approve the purchase of the ship *Duke* in the circumstances explained. It was too much to dismiss Captain Glover of the *Warren*, for disobeying orders. The Council should have protested to the owners for damages and left the punishment to us. On examination, it appears that Glover acted in compliance with the Secret Committee's orders. Have dismissed Captain George Beamish of the *Royal George* for secreting a box of jewels taken on a prize and permitting the ill-usage of the Company's military. Have given the command of the ship to Captain Nicholas Skottowe. The allowance of 1,600 Rs. to Captain Macleshin of the *Diligent* for table-expenses was too much. Observe that

Mrs. Mackay and Mr. Stratton were allowed to sail on the *Prince Henry* and Messrs. Glover, Brown, Beaver, Harper and Cooper on the *Diligent*. Passengers are not to sail on packet ships unless on extraordinary occasions.

The Madras indents are being complied with as far as possible. Muskets will be made according to the pattern recommended by Lawrence. Those of this season have been already provided and are therefore of the old pattern.[1] Cannot fully comply with the indent for arms and accoutrements for the cavalry; but send sufficient for a troop of horse the same as were sent with Vasserot. The pitch sent is the kind used in the Navy. Desire to know whether it is better than what is usually sent. The Flints come from His Majesty's magazines, from which you will be supplied in future. Send 100 barrels of gunpowder on each ship, and shall continue this till you can make enough for your service. Have not yet been able to find suitable persons to undertake this manufacture in India; but the Council should furnish a full and exact account of the ingredients and process used. Much depends upon the charcoal. It is suggested that the tulip tree or the 'bendy' might be suitable. Samples of the wood used are to be sent home specifying its age. Powder should never be made with damp saltpetre and should be constantly moved in the mill for six hours. Samples of the saltpetre, brimstone and finished powder are to be sent home. Regarding the sale of broadcloth, the merchants have clearly combined to buy at their own price. Send 300 tons of copper. Though 100 barrels of powder are sent on each ship, enough cannot be sent to satisfy your demands, and you must encourage its making as much as possible. Two skilled persons were sent to Bengal last year, and perhaps one may be spared you for a short time. The military stores taken at Chandernagore should have been brought into the Company's stores, instead of being sold as merchandise. Regarding the Council's observations on the report of the China supracargoes that cloth had been illicitly put on board a ship in the Madras roads, the Council is desired to return to the old method of clothing good sense in plain and modest language and of avoiding the flourishes of levity which border too much upon ill manners. Among the complaints

[1] Probably Lawrence desired muskets some what shorterin the barrel than the pattern in use, which was 46 inches, with a bayonet nearly 18 inches long. In 1765 some muskets were received only 38½ inches in the barrel. Forty-two was the length really desired. *Public Consultations*, September 23, 1765, p. 431.

brought against the Company is that of restricting its servants from taking the gunpowder, etc. contracts. This appears to us natural and just. They prove lucrative bargains to those who get them. Such exorbitant advantages should be restrained; but to demonstrate our confidence we hereby revoke our orders forbidding our servants to take part in contracts, the investment, etc., but at the same time all contracts, etc., must be given to the best bidder after allowing a reasonable time.

Send list of investment for the next season. We approve the measures taken to reduce the merchants' balances, especially regarding that old offender Sunkurama who reduced his balance to 2,000 Pags. on the threat of being prosecuted in the Mayor's Court. Greatly approve of the conduct of Basava Chetti who, while the other merchants were backward in fulfilling their contracts, brought in 12,000 Pags. worth of goods without requiring any advance. The need of great caution in making advances to merchants is clear. The transaction with Basava Chetti evidently shows that advances may be much reduced when you deal with men of reputation and substance. Entirely disapprove of the method you point out for providing investment at the subordinates. The practice of other presidencies should be adopted. We have suffered heavily by the old system and you know our reports were founded in truth. While our servants were the merchants who sold us our goods, we were loaded with all factory and garrison charges and saddled with all casualties and bad debts. Our servants are appointed to check impositions and abuses, and cannot be allowed to become our merchants. In future the merchants at the subordinate settlements are to transmit sealed proposals to the Governor and Council at Madras and the contracts are to be given to the best tenders. The Chief and factors at the subordinacies should see that the goods are delivered in time and point out defects or possible improvements. The Council must decide whether it is practicable to have the goods delivered at Madras at the contractors' risk. The Northern Chiefs are not to have a larger allowance than will be sufficient to support them in a plain, decent and frugal manner. If 50 Pags. a month is not sufficient, a reasonable addition may be made.

Preparations are being vigorously made for the next campaign in Europe. The French, being unable to encounter our squadron at sea, are endeavouring to distress our trade by sending out frigates and privateers as cruisers, in which they have been assisted by the long continuance of the western winds. Recently

however, His Majesty's ships have been able to get to sea and captured several of the enemy's cruisers, among others the *Warwick* (34 guns) with 295 men, bound for the French Islands, with provisions, ammunition and stores. If the Danes have repeated their complaints of one of their ships being detained in Bengal and obliged to sail under convoy of the *Warren*, it is hoped that the Madras Council have suitably represented the impropriety of their supplying the French with provisions. As the Letters Patent of 1758, regarding the division of plunder were only granted after close examination and would not be granted now on any better terms, cannot apply for any revision. Trust that a suitable satisfaction may be procured for the inhuman massacre of Southby and others by 'the Burmurs.' Approve the orders given to Andrews regarding Masulipatam, as the cartel of 1759 was not intended to apply for India. In any case the French have violated it so often that it should not be considered except when its provisions are advantageous to us. The suspicions of the Dutch intentions were too well-founded, but 'providentially' the evils they meditated were retorted on themselves. The conduct of the Bengal Council should be adopted in similar circumstances. 'Be ever bold in asserting and maintaining our just rights.' If necessary the Danes should be effectively deterred from pursuing their base conduct.

Observe from Call's letter that he hopes to be able in future to avoid the constant expense of temporary works, and to perform what he undertakes in a durable manner. Desire Fort St. George to be maintained in a respectable condition but with all possible frugality. Few writers have any turn for the Engineer's profession, but Nicholas Barnard sent out this season may prove a useful assistant. Much approve the discharge of 2,000 coolies on the works and the reduction of the exorbitant pay of artificers, labourers, etc. Urge the necessity of letting all districts that fall into our possession as well as possible, and of reducing the Nawab's debt. Acquiesce in the resolution to recover the rents in monthly or short payments instead of taking security, provided the former method really answers. Acquiesce also in the form of Karunguli being given to Muhammad Azim, although another offered 500 Pags. more, owing to the former's interest, past behaviour and expected services. Approve also of the suspension of duties during the expected scarcity of grain; also the suspension of the arrack farm, as the pernicious custom among our military of drinking spirituous liquors should as far as

possible be suppressed, although in the present case, clandestine sale prevented the measure from succeeding. Although the Council are not expected to construct or plan buildings, they must scrutinise carefully the Engineer's plans and estimates. Complain of the neglect of this, although with Mr. Call as Engineer such supine conduct cannot affect us.

Robert Palk and John Pybus take their passage on the *Fox*. Are now satisfied that Edwards should not be admitted a member of the Council; and Pybus need not refund the salary he received as Assaymaster. Have put a bar on John Smith's succeeding to the Government, as, though we are not willing to remove him from the Council, he is thought in many respects exceptionable. Desire the Council to report their separate opinions on his conduct and capacity. If thought unfit, he may be displaced from his seat. This procedure may be followed whenever any member may be thought unfit to be of council. The Select Committee shall consist of Pigot (President), Palk (the Second), Charles Bourchier, the principal Commander of the Company's forces (under Lawrence) whenever military affairs are being discussed and John Call. Whenever the Committee is reduced under the number of 5, the remaining members shall appoint such persons as they think fit. In case Madras is again besieged, the sole authority is to be vested in the Governor, the Second, the Commander in-Chief, the Second-in-Command and the Principal Engineer. Are much gratified that Lawrence has offered to resume the command of the Company's forces in India. His Majesty has granted him a brevet of Major-General in the East Indies, to command both the Company's and His Majesty's forces there. He will serve as Commander-in-Chief in whichever presidency he resides, but it is believed that he will be principally at Madras. Recommend that matters be settled with all possible harmony. On all Council and Committees he will be an additional member besides those already mentioned, and rank next below the Governor. His salary will be £1,500 a year to commence on arrival, in lieu of all pay, except batta in the field and travelling allowances in proceeding from one presidency to another. The annuity of £500 granted on his last return to England will cease. Now send new commissions to Colonel Caillaud in consequence of His present Majesty's accession. In general, approve of the division of the business into two departments with distinct offices, the one dealing with military and country affairs, and the other with trade, etc. But do not approve of the laying aside of the Select Committee. Indeed the Council's

appointment in 1758 of a Committee of Correspondence really amounts to establishing a Select Committee. Secret matters will be dealt with by the Select Committee and not communicated to the Council till there is no longer reason to keep them secret. Regarding the 'unseasonable sarcasm' with which the Company's recommendation of the late Mr. Perceval was received, enquire how it can pass that so many of you had acquired very considerable fortunes such as 'gentlemen of the best families in England' can hardly attain, at a time when the trade of Madras was at its lowest ebb.

Consent to the allowance made to Aldersey, as Secretary, of £100 a year, as the work of the office has much increased, but the reasons assigned are not approved. Require an explanation of the Council's statements that the prospect of promotion to superior stations has become too barren to encourage industry. Thomas Amphlett has been permitted to go to Bengal as assistant to Brohier, and is transferred to the Bengal establishment. The arrest of Manningham at a critical juncture would have been cruel and ungrateful, but the Council's conclusions are ungenerous.[1] No difficulty is found in procuring competent surgeons to proceed to the chief settlements on the salaries and emoluments offered. If after arrival their heads are turned, give us due notice that we may replace them by others of more humble mind, though not perhaps of inferior talents. They do not seem to suffer under any new disadvantage. The Council's remarks on the establishment of a special government in case of a siege, went beyond the bounds of decency; but we excuse as a misapprehension what we could not otherwise pardon. The Company was induced to take this step by the catastrophe of Bengal and some suggestions made by Colonel Clive. The step could be supported by other melancholy experiences perhaps better forgotten.[2] It is also supported by the fall of Fort St. David, which was lost by shameful neglect and dissipation of stores which seem to have been in nobody's charge while the whole siege was one scene of confusion and mismanagement. The Governor and Council are certainly unequal to directing military operations. The Council evidently agree with this or they would not have delegated this power to Pigot and Lawrence.

[1] The reference is mislaid, but, when, Manningham was at Madras in 1757, some one brought an action against him in the Mayor's Court for goods lost at the capture of Calcutta.

[2] Presumably the loss of Madras in 1746.

No one was rendered liable to martial law except those regularly subject to it. It was never the Company's intention to bring their covenanted servants, etc., under military laws. As for the complaint against the order that no place should be given up until breached and at least one assault delivered, this was proposed by Colonel Clive and intended merely to indicate that no place was to be surrendered without absolute necessity. 'You have all given us recent and shining proofs of great prudence and most gallant behaviour.' Therefore say no more on this head. Complain that the Council's replies to the Company's complaints are disingenuous. The Company is willing to make great allowances for long-established customs and practices, and desire to leave the door open for all honourable retreat. Are desirous to free the Councillors 'from the necessity of using abject and unwarrantable methods in acquiring a genteel support,' but the Company's patience has produced only positive denials and reflexions on the Company's injustice. It is notorious that our former servants received annual sums from the woollen contractor for giving him the bargain. The Governor declares that he has never been benefited by the sale of our woollens and the provision of our investments. It is plain that he raises a tax upon our farms under the head of presents, for this is the only allowed point. He declares that without such aids he must be absolutely doomed to poverty, but that they never had biassed his conduct. In consequence of his abilities and great merit in the defence of Madras, we shall handle this subject in a tender manner. He makes the whole of his pay to be £1,400 a year, but the books show it at £2,000; and he affirms that much more than twice this will not support him with decency. The Company cannot understand or endure such immense expenses. He is under no necessity of keeping open table; and to avoid the necessity of his entertaining the King's officers, special table allowances of £800 a year are granted to the Colonels, Majors, etc.; while the Admiral and the Commanders of His Majesty's ships are allowed 40*s.* a day. Consider that Pigot's expenditure is an 'unnecessary parade and uncommon extravagance.' While the Company has had to reduce its dividend by one-fourth, why should our President's table expenses infinitely exceed those of any Governor in the British dominions? As the givers and occasions of Pigot's presents are not exactly known, the Company can hardly judge whether his conduct has ever been biassed; but presents from farmers must be intended to obtain indulgences at our expense;

presents from the Nawab must be for services past or hoped for, and as he is so deeply in our debt, every pagoda taken from him is to us a double injury. These presents must lead to the Company's prejudice, and in future we shall proceed with the utmost rigour against all who are guilty of receiving them.

Complain that the Council evade giving explanations of the specific enquiries made of them, in regard to which their language is insufferable, inconsistent and absurd. Their conduct must be altered if they expect the Company's favour. As we have now deprived the President of all the advantages which former Governors enjoyed, and as his table expense is no less than that of our other presidencies, direct that in future the Governor is to be allowed £3,000 a year in full for salary, diet,[1] cattle, servants, palankin, wax, damar and oil. If his allowances have been clogged with monthly sums to our writers, etc., for diet,[1] this is to be shown as a separate charge. The stipulated amount is for the Governor alone. Moreover, as the Governor's duties demand such extraordinary application and fatigue as prevent him from reaping the advantages of his high station in the course of trade, in order to make him happy and independent, we allow him an annual commission of 2½ *per cent.* on the net revenues of all our farms, including all lands belonging to us under the management of the Governor and Council. This with his perquisites on the coinage of silver and gold and his consulage on coral imported is all that we authorize our Governor to receive. Further, inasmuch as it has been the practice for the President to receive presents from the Nawab, and whereas it has been proved that Orme received large sums on account of his pretended influence, and others may have been guilty of the same, in future any employee of whatever rank guilty of receiving presents from the Nawab, or other allies or their dependants, shall be immediately dismissed. However, the Nawab should allow the President an annual consulage of 2½ *per cent.* on the revenues of all the mortgaged lands. These orders are to be publicly communicated to the Nawab. None have a right to considerations from him of any kind 'for our interests are so cemented as to admit of no distinction,' and soldiers protecting his territories are as much on duty as if defending Madras. Before the situation of the Council and other covenanted servants can be considered, a faithful and just account of the advantages in every department must be

[1] In 1722 the various 'tables' were abolished and an allowance of 7,000 pagodas a year made. But when the individual allowances had been paid, only 265 pagodas remained to keep up the Governor's table.

furnished in a much more detailed manner than the statements sent in 1754. 'We observe it's a new doctrine, started, and peculiar to yourselves, that the Company's allowances are to give you wealth; but this must not be expected; our appointments were at all our settlements only calculated to extend to diet and clothe our servants. Fortunes were and must be acquired by application in trade supported by the Company's influence and protection.' Do not at present see how the finances of the presidency are to be conducted. Until 1746, Madras was able to maintain itself and its subordinacies; but now, even if the Nawab discharged his debt, how are the annual charges to be met? They cannot be supplied by the profits on a yearly investment of one or two cargoes and the sale of a little copper and lead. It is the duty of the Council, instead of scoffing at the service, to lighten the burden lest the Company should sink under it and its servants be forced to seek their bread elsewhere. In regard to this subject, the Council have brought us to this cruel alternative—that woollens must be sold to one person or not at all. In spite of the Company's arguments and efforts to secure public sales, our goods rotted in the warehouse and the trade went from us, while the neighbouring countries were supplied by the French and the Dutch. The merchants of Fort St. David requested a share of the privilege in the woollen trade but were not allowed to interfere with the monopoly of Linga Chetti. In their despatch of October 27, 1755, the Council admit that woollens might perhaps be imported from Bengal at a profit of 17 *per cent.* on the invoice price; but in that very year, several bales of cloth were imported from Bengal, although it had been sold there at a profit of 30 *per cent.* on the invoice. The Prussian ship which touched at Masulipatam in 1756 is believed to have sold to the French at Masulipatam considerable quantities of woollens, although in mentioning the ship, the Madras Council say nothing about this. These facts show that the Company's woollens might have been and still may be sold to advantage, unless (which the Company do not believe), the Dutch and French also allow monopoly to one or two merchants who might then crush petty merchants attempting to buy at our sales. Having thus clearly explained our sentiments, we leave you at full liberty to sell the woollen goods in any manner you think best. If the method of public auction be taken, our merchants may purchase to whatever extent they please. The Council is therefore to indent for such quantities of cloth and long ells as can annually be sold, remembering that a profit of 10 or 20 *per cent.* on 600 bales is preferable to 30 or 40 *per cent.* on 300, on account

of the advantage of extending their export. Profits may be lowered as much as may be necessary to beat the French and Dutch out of this valuable trade. Any servant found guilty of receiving any gratification for the sale of our woollens, etc., or leasing out our farms or in the contracts for our investments, shall be instantly dismissed and sued for damages in the Mayor's Court. Are entirely satisfied with Pigot's answer to Isaac's memorial.[1] The dismissal of the various members of the Bengal Council for signing a grossly insulting letter to the Company, dated December 29, 1759, and the appointment of a new Council and Select Committee in Bengal. Coote may be allowed his table at our expense when in the field as Commander-in-chief of our forces, if Lawrence was allowed this; but none of the King's officers are entitled to it. In case of need of a body of European Cavalry, have decided to establish an additional troop of light horse at Madras, and have therefore agreed with Captain John Freake (recommended by Lord Ligonier) to raise 50 men, he being allowed to nominate his subalterns. Their pay is to be as follows: 1 captain on £270 a year; 1 first Lieutenant on £164-5-0; 1 second Lieutenant on £146; 1 Cornet at £146; 1 Quartermaster-General at £8-16-0 a month; 3 sergeants each at £3-12-0; 3 corporals at £2-16-0; 2 drummers at £2-16-0 and 54 privates at £2 each; 67 in all. Intend that these men with their accoutrements shall be sent out this season, their pay to begin from date of arrival. It is to be drawn for effective men only. The Captain will have the benefit of the clothing. Horses will be provided by the council on the best terms available. In case the troop is increased, the same establishment of officers will suffice. This establishment is to be the model of all European horse in our service in Madras. This troop constitutes the only troop sent out this season, except the cadets David Whithecombe and William Crawford, in addition to those previously sent. Captain Gaup, on arriving in England, claimed off-reckonings for 140 men irrespective of the number of his effectives. Are sure there is no reasonable foundation for this claim which is the more unreasonable as Gaup's Company was short of the stipulated number at the time of its despatch and was never kept up to strength by recruitment as required by the contract. He has also made extraordinary claims for clothing his men in Bengal. The Swiss officers have given much trouble by their unreasonable expectations and demands and it is a good

[1] See p. 194 *supra*.

thing that the Swiss Companies have been abolished. Captain Schaub's behaviour was very improper; it is not surprising that he withdrew before the sentence of the Court-martial was published, and he is never more to be employed. Although military expenses are so high, yet as Lawrence, Draper and others declare that a town-major, a town-adjutant and one adjutant for each battalion are indispensably necessary, we cannot help acquiescing. Consider the appointment of a youth as ensign with liberty to come to England for his education, involved an unwarranted expense. The person in question is Captain Beaver's son. However valuable the father's services may have been, he must refund the amount drawn by his son as ensign and the latter struck off the list. We will have no concern with our military officers' agents in England in regard to the clothing. Approve of the rewards promised to the garrison if they behaved gallantly at the siege. But Pigot should not have ordered medals to be struck and distributed in his name.[1] Honorary rewards are the Company's prerogative. Hope that Pondichery has long been in your possession. Nevertheless are sending nearly 800 men on the Bombay ships. Coote is to receive our particular thanks for his great services and masterly conduct. Our thanks are also offered to Colonel Monson for his zeal and courage. Lament the death of Major Brereton. Disapprove the appointment of Josiah Bullock, 3rd mate of the *Pocock*, as a volunteer and his immediate promotion as a cornet, whereby he must have superseded many who had better pretensions to be preferred. It is not long since our officers were remonstrating against supersessions by commissioned officers from home. Bullock is to be immediately dismissed and sent home. No persons belonging to our ships should be entertained in our civil or military service without our express leave. Have paid a certificate, granted to the executors of Captain Lewis Tornery, February 24, 1752, and which has at last been found. Your enquiry into the accounts of Thomas Eyre, (Paymaster, etc., in 1746) will enable us to settle this long pending affair. Send copies of the Fort St. David books for 1749 and 1750, as they cannot be found in India. Forward letter from the auditor making certain proposals for the improvement of our audit accounts. An enquiry is to be made into the disposal of the effects of Lieutenant John Ray of the Bombay detachment who died at Fort St. David, about March 26, 1755. Refuse to allow the loss of

[1] I know of no other reference to this circumstance. It appears to be the earliest *distribution* of medals in India.

354 Pags., which Andrews charged to our accounts, instead of referring it to your consideration. Approve the method decided on for keeping the Nawab's accounts. Charges for maintaining the French prisoners since May 1752 may probably become a claim in Europe, and should be shown separately. Payments to the marines, who while in the Company's service, are entitled to pay from the Navy, constitute a demand in England and must be shown separately. Proper vouchers must be obtained for all charges on account of the King's troops or Squadron, which may properly constitute a demand in Europe.

Sumatra affairs will not be dealt with under a separate heading in the despatches, as it has been constituted a separate presidency.

Furnish Council's opinion regarding the following points propounded by the Mayor's Court.

(1) Whether the Mayor's Court has jurisdiction over causes arising beyond the limits of its jurisdiction? Opinion: The Court has jurisdiction where claim is made against a resident within its jurisdiction, no matter where the obligation was originally contracted.

(2) Whether the assignment to an European of a bond given by an Indian to an Indian will warrant a suit on that bond in the Mayor's Court? Opinion: Where such assignment is made *bona fide* to transfer the benefit of the debt, a suit will lie against an Indian provided he is constantly residing within the limits of its jurisdiction.

(3) Whether the Court can grant probates or administration in cases where the deceased died out of its jurisdiction? Opinion: The Court can grant probates, etc., where there are assets within its jurisdiction.

(4) Whether an executor or administrator is liable for payments made by virtue of decrees on simple contract debts in preference to debts due by bond? Opinion: 'The effect of judgments and decrees founded upon simple contract debts is to advance those debts up to the highest rank, from which time an executor or administrator (unless a demand be made or notice given of judgments prior in time) may prefer such new judgments to debts in equal degree at his own discretion.'

(5) Whether an executor is guilty of wasting assets by paying inferior debts before those of a superior nature? Opinion: This will depend on the extent the superior claims are prejudiced and the reasonableness of the executor's conduct.

(6) Whether the Mayor's Court can grant probate or administration to an Indian for an estate owned by an Indian? Opinion: The probate may be granted to enable him as executor to recover the assets under English Law.

(7) Whether the heirs of Indians can sue Europeans for simple contract debts without first obtaining probate from the Mayor's Court? Opinion: The probate must first be obtained.

(8) Whether the Mayor or Senior Alderman must be present to make a Court? Opinion: One of the two is essential for a quorum.

The power to try pirates under the commission of George II having expired on his death, a new commission from George III is now sent.

Send out clothing, money and stores for His Majesty's troops, the Squadron and the artillery companies, of which notice must be given to the proper officers. Other Government stores have been laden equally on the Madras and Bombay ships. The land forces ordered by His Majesty to the East Indies are about 76 recruits for Colonel Draper's regiment; five independent companies of nearly 600 strong sent direct to Madras; 40 recruits for Colonel Coote's battalion; and about 70 for Morris' which will sail on the Bombay ships to be sent on to Madras by the first proper conveyances. The five independent companies now sent are to be incorporated with the four companies of the 70th regiment which went out last season to Bombay and are to form a battalion for Colonel Monson. Major William Piers is to be one of the two Majors; and Major Charles Chapman the other. The battalion is to be on the same footing as regards pay, etc., as the others in India, and Monson is to have £400 a year and the two Majors £200 each to defray house-rent and to entertain officers, in full consideration of all expenses, batta in the field excepted. Usual instructions regarding head money for recruits, passage and diet of officers and men. Stubborn fight at sea between His Majesty's ship *Sea Horse* and the larger French frigate *Le Grand*. Calcraft, agent to Draper's and Monson's regiments, has been permitted to send about £18,000 worth of foreign gold for the pay of those regiments. About £14,000 have been laded; and the rest will be sent by later ships. In all orders given regarding allowances to His Majesty's officers and privates, it was never intended to do more than make their pay equal to that of Company's service. We now hear that Captains of King's troops have been receiving allowances to put them on equal footing with our own in respect

of clothing. Since this measure has now been adopted and would give disgust to persons if withheld, the Company must acquiesce, but this allowance must be reduced as soon as possible.

Supplement: Note that on some of our China ships, cotton has been freighted by private persons. If this will turn to advantage at Canton, it may be done on the Company's account. As His Majesty's Officers must often be in sole command of our forces at a considerable distance from Madras, whenever Lawrence is not in the field a Councillor with another Company's servant if necessary, should accompany the army, with such powers as Lawrence and the Council may think fit, to take charge of all disbursements, and have a principal share in all matters except military operations. In consequence of the heavy expenses of supernumerary officers, promoted from unavoidable necessity during the siege, as many as possible should be drafted on to Bengal, Bombay or Sumatra. It is reported that the officers in command of the Sepoy troops are guilty of great abuses. A strict enquiry is to be made. To prevent import of woollen goods from Negapatam, etc., into Madras, a duty of 15 % is to be levied on all British woollens, and a prohibitive duty on all foreign ones. Plans are to be made and sent of Fort St. George and all other places in the Madras Presidency.

Appended are:—

(1) Report from George Oldmixon, Auditor, East India House, dated March 13, 1761, pointing out certain defects in the general books and accounts of quick stock (pp. 113—115);

(2) Copy of letter from the Company to Rear-Admiral Steevens, dated December 31, 1760, offering congratulations on his succeeding Pocock in the command of the Squadron, in the East Indies, alluding to his past gallantry while serving under Pocock, and suggesting that in case he has sufficient superiority over the French naval forces, he should take steps to protect the Company's settlements in Sumatra (pp. 117–118);

(3) Copy of the Company's Commission to Major-General Stringer Lawrence, dated March 11, 1761, as Commander-in-chief of all the Company's forces in the East Indies (pp. 119-120);

(4) Copy of the Royal Commission, dated December 9, 1760, to him as Major-General of all His Majesty's forces in India (p. 121);

(5) Copy of the Royal Commission, dated October 27, 1760, to John Caillaud as Colonel of Foot in the East Indies (p. 123).

DESPATCH FROM THE SECRET COMMITTEE TO THE SELECT COMMITTEE AT MADRAS. LONDON, MARCH 13, 1761. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol. 2, pp. 22–25 (original, 4 pp.)*]

Complain that the Secret Committee was not informed by either the Select Committee or the Fresident of the purpose with which the *Cuddalore* schooner was placed under Pigot's sole orders for secret service. A letter has been received from Dalrymple, February 4, 1760; but he merely says that Pigot will communicate the purpose of the expedition.

The cartel was probably never intended to take effect in the East Indies. The infamous conduct of the French regarding Count d' Estaing, Bussy and others is sufficient to warrant your rejecting it whenever our interest makes it necessary. Polier's conduct at Fort St. David was no recommendation to your trust and confidence. Approve the granting of a Majority to Caillaud just before the siege. Acknowledge that he does honour to the promotion we had obtained for him. Trust that the acquisition of Masulipatam will greatly aid our finances as its revenues are said to be considerable. The intention of obtaining a farman for it is approved. The Company has taken infinite pains to establish the Council's authority over all military forces. 'We even plann'd the scheme of an union in the General Council over all military affairs in India and to centre at Madras, the Governor, Second and our chief military officer with the two superior officers of His Majesty to form this Council; but as the Ministry would not allow the majority to be with the Company, we dropp'd it.' The Ministry indeed consented to confide the sole command to Lawrence, but we could not accept that without destroying our whole system of Government. The Committee must go on as best as it can. It is unfortunate that the India Mutiny Act has lodged the power of holding courts-martial in His Majesty's officers. Adlercron's powers certainly devolved to the next officer and the same orders and powers are still binding on the troops. Regret that the Committee should have supposed that the covenanted servants had not our principal confidence. The Engineer[1] had no particular powers, but the Select Committee, disgusted at our defending him against a person who failed in his duty, put everything under his management and then complained of his authority. The general letter will show the concessions we have made.

[1] Colonel Scott is meant.

His Majesty's officers should never interfere in the promotion of our own officers or meddle in any way with the management of our affairs. The Legislature alone can control the rights derived from our Charter. If any similar attempt should be made in future, require His Majesty's officers to produce their authority. Approve endeavours to reduce the Nawab's debt and measures to secure the revenues of Arcot. The Nawab must bear his share of the distresses in which we are plunged in defending his interests. Revoke the power formerly given of compounding for Trichinopoly. 'The Nawab's accounts should not be loaded with partial charges, but a war with France does not in our judgment make any material difference. It enables us, with the great assistance from government, to give him powerful and secure protection.' These and other points must be determined when we come to a final settlement.

LETTER FROM G. STEEVENS TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., PORTSMOUTH, MARCH 27, 1761. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol.* 2, *p.* 26 (*original*, ½ *p.*)]

Reports having put on board the Company's ships the *Warren*, *Fox*, *Earl of Holdernesse*, and *Plassey*, 378 men and 14 women belonging to the 4 companies of Monson's battalion, commanded by Major Charles Chapman.

Appended is the return (pp. 27-28) of the 4 companies:— On the *Earl of Holdernesse*, Major Charles Chapman, Captain Thomas Jenkins, Lieutenants Baldwin Layton, and Francis Spitsbury, Lieutenant and Adjutant Stephen Winthrop, Ensign and Quartermaster Thomas Whitby and 87 others; on the *Fox*, Captain Albert Jones and 96 others; on the *Warren*, Captain Henry Egleton Connor, Lieutenants Thomas Saunders, Edward Harris and Richard Rose, Ensign Edward Humphreys, and Surgeon Matthew Allen, and 95 others; and on the *Plassey*, Captain James Hart, Lieutenants Alexander McKenzie and George Archbold, Ensigns Jonas Hatfield, and James Neville, and 96 others.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC. LONDON, MAY 6, 1761. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 64, *pp.* 151—160 (*original*, 10 *pp.*)]

Cite despatch of March 13. This goes by the *Norfolk* and *Chesterfield*. Since then the annual election of Directors has taken place. The Secret Committee consists of Laurence Sulivan, Thomas Rous, John Boyd, Christopher Burrow and Charles Cutts.

These 2 ships are laden with merchandise, half for Madras, half for Bengal, and Government stores; they carry also the troop of horse. The Commander, Captain John Freake, sails on the *Chesterfield*. An additional allowance is to be made of £30 a year to one of the Sergeants of the troops doing duty as riding master, and of £20 a year to the private acting as farrier. Send Samuel Evans as an additional cadet, to rank next to William Crawford. The *Norfolk* and *Chesterfield* being taken up only for the voyage to India should be despatched without loss of time to Bengal. Send full instructions for carrying into execution the new commission for the trial of pirates.[1]

The belligerents in Europe all seem desirous of peace, except the Empress Queen. A Congress is anticipated. Nevertheless great preparations are being made on all sides. 'On the part of Great Britain, if a peace should be agreed upon, it seems . . . it will be done sword in land'. Capture of a French East Indiaman called the *Bertin*, 64 guns, and 353 men, bound to the French Isles. Capture of the *Ajax* by a French ship. Reports in France that their fleet suffered severely at the French Isles in a violent storm. Seizure of the English settlements in Sumatra by the French expedition. Comment on the conduct of D'Estaing who, in spite of his parole, served against Gombroon, falsely asserting that he had engaged not to serve only on the Coromandel Coast. Believe he has done the same at Sumatra. Require particular accounts of what parts of your fortifications and for what other uses the iron ordnance indented for are required; also an exact return of ordnance, both in store and mounted. Have been supplied by the Board of Ordnance with 6 Ligonier howitzers with travelling carriages with Brigadier Desagulier's instrument affixed to them, 600 shells of 4⅘ inches, and 660 flannel cartridges. These have field carriages which permit their being moved with much greater ease and rapidity than was possible before, as Lawrence has had an opportunity of seeing before leaving England. Also send 100,000 flints. The agents for Colonels Coote's and Morris' regiments send by these ships 30,000 £ worth of gold and silver for their pay. Since writing the above, have received news that a Congress is to be held, but this will not affect the immediate course of hostilities. Enclose commissions to John Freake as Captain, John Gordon as

[1] New Commissions had to be issued with each new reign, under the statute of William III, which first extended the power of trying offences committed on the high seas beyond the English Admiralty Courts.

First Lieutenant, William Smith as Second Lieutenant, and John Mair, Cornet, of the troop of light horse, giving them rank from date of arrival. Restoration of Sumner and McGwire to the Bengal Council. John Mclean of Captain Freake's regiment, having been bred in the academy of Woolwich, is qualified for engineering work.

Postscript: Instructions regarding Fort Marlborough, where a new Governor is to be appointed from Madras, if the late Governor, etc., should have been carried away prisoners or otherwise prevented from acting.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC. LONDON, JUNE 19, 1761. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 64, *pp.* 161—164 (*original*, 4 *pp.*)]

Report despatch and arrival of shipping. Are satisfied that Fort Marlborough was not tenable against the enemy's superior forces. When this settlement is re-established, the original Council should return thither.

Confirm the commissions as Major given to Captain Joseph Smith and Achilles Preston. The conduct of both, especially the latter, merits our approval. Appoint Captain Richard Smith, Major on the Madras establishment for his eminent services in the Mysore country and his general good character. Trust that these promotions will not only excite the new Majors to a proper exercise of their abilities, but also encourage others to a like good behaviour. Have received reports that 7 French men-of-war from the French Islands visited the Cape in December 1760 to secure provisions of which they were in great need. Conclude that Pondichery cannot have been relieved by their fleet and hope that by this time that 'formidable and rival settlement' has fallen into our hands. A meeting of the congress seems to be still at a distance. The English have entirely reduced Belle Isle, and another grand expedition is preparing for an unknown destination.

THE MADRAS DESPATCHES, 1761–1762.

DESPATCH FROM GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, OCTOBER 2, 1761. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 23, *pp.* 44—83 (*copy*, 40 *pp.*)]

Cite despatch of March 6, by the *Onslow*, etc. This goes by the *Prince Edward* and *Falmouth.*

Acknowledge the receipt of despatches, dated November 5 and December 31, 1760, January 21 and March 13, 1761. Shipping news. The despatch of the vast number of French prisoners taken at Pondichery is most necessary to secure the full advantages of capture of that place. The *Prince Edward, Earl Temple* and *Falmouth*, are being employed for that purpose. They are short of tonnage, and have had to be provided with iron kintlage for lack of saltpetre. In June, decided to freight the *Admiral Watson* to Nicholas Morse, etc., concerned in the Manilla voyage, as their ship, the *Trichinopoly*, was forced by leaks to return almost immediately to the Coast. The Company's ship has been let at the rate of 36⅔ Pagodas *per* day being the rate of its demurrage. The *Triton* arrived here from the Bombay Coast with cotton, pepper, and sandal for the China market. We were only able to put on board her a small quantity of redwood, and no treasure could be spared, so that she had to sail with less than the proper stock. The *Neptune* sailed from Tellicherry for Canton in the same state, as Bombay could not complete her. Every opportunity will be taken to develop the China trade by sending 'casual ships' thither. One of last year's China ships, the *Warwick*, lost her main topmast by lightning when off Sumatra, and had to put into Batavia to refit. It is believed that the *Fort Marlborough* snow, which sailed from Batavia June 1760 with a number of Fort Marlborough servants, was wrecked near the island of Cocrata. The *Earl Temple* has been employed in fetching the stores left at Malacca, as it was too late for her to return home with French prisoners. Have not been able to secure this season as much redwood either for Bengal or Canton as was desired; but 2,000 pagodas' worth of it at 2½ pagodas a candy was taken from Cheppermaul Chitty in part payment of the debt due from his father Linga Chetti for revenues for which he had been security.

Captain Jackson of the *Pitt* who had bought up 200 candies of redwood, in ignorance of last year's orders prohibiting the export of that article to China, was not allowed to export; but the Council took it off his hands at the price of 5¾ pagodas a candy which he had paid for it. Believe that the Company has misunderstood Council's remarks by the *Warren* regarding the Madras Custom-house. Here Customs officers are not placed on board all ships as in the English ports from the time of arrival until clearance, in order to prevent goods from being run; so that we have no means of preventing goods from being shipped by night, as was probably the case with the foreign cloths of which the Canton supracargoes wrote. In regard to the bills for 1,92,000 Spanish dollars carried from Manilla to Canton, the holders have consented to take bonds several of which have since been cancelled for bills on Bengal, and the remainder will be paid as soon as possible.

For some time past it has not been possible to make advances for the investment or even pay for the cloth brought in. The Council have however offered interest bonds for all cloth delivered. It does not seem advisable in these circumstances to attempt any new regulation. However, the payments expected from the Nawab this year and the revenue collections will permit ready money to be paid, and then the investment shall be put upon a better footing. The old balances have almost all been paid off. Most of the cloth now sent has been delivered in without advances being made. As the expenses of Madras have been very large, it has been necessary to bring the Masulipatam balance here instead of using it for the investment. Expenditure has been materially increased by the need of maintaining numerous French prisoners.

Count D'Estaing is reported to have carried off to the French Islands everything of value at Fort Marlborough, together with some Chinese families to be settled there. As the King of Quedda refused to make any compensation for the seizure of the *Northumberland* snow and massacre of her crew in 1756, the Council have given to Captain Mackmath a bond for the produce of the King of Quedda's ship confiscated here in 1759.

The Council agree with Call in thinking that no more temporary works will be necessary here; but what remains still to be done in masonry will amount to a large sum. Acknowledge that too much was left in Brohier's control; but the reason was that, considering

the Company's prepossession in his favour and distrust of the Council, it was feared that any attempt to check his work would be regarded as opposition to the Company's will. Forward a letter from Call containing a description of the present state of the fortifications. The terms on which the ground to the west now enclosed between the old and new fortifications is to be let, are laid down in Consultations of June 16 and July 7. The Armenians and other foreign merchants will be permitted to build there subject to the Company's approval, provided they conform to the plan laid down for the construction of buildings. The owners of the houses demolished during the siege in order to extend the Esplanade to the northward, have been granted certificates for the compensation money due to them. Waste ground, a little way distant from the Fort, has been granted to Taylor, Debonaire, West and Marriette. George Mackay has been allowed to dispose of his ground and house on the Choultry Plain to any European residing in India with the Company's permission.

Are well aware of the extent to which Company's affairs are distressed by the Nawab's debt. We have required of him payments amounting to 50 lakhs of rupees for the ensuing year, which is more than would have been demanded but for the financial situation, though it is feared that so large a demand may lead him to oppress the country. But if this be paid and no extraordinary expenditure be incurred, the Nawab's balance will be reduced. In former letters have explained the reasons for considering that the Company's farms will produce more if let for 5 years, instead of one. The farmers will undertake improvements, if they have a long lease. Have therefore let all the farms for 5 years at rents more than what was expected. The Poonamallee country was let out in 1756 for 51,650 pagodas, but the farmer, Numboor Venkatasubbayya, was thereby ruined and still owes large sums which are irrecoverable. There remains about the value of one year's rent to be paid by the King of Tanjore to complete the 1½ lakhs of rupees promised for the restoration of the Karikal country. This was let for one year only to Basavappa Chetti for 27,100 pagodas. Senda list of Masulipatam revenues.

George Pigot is duly grateful for the appointment of his successor and hopes soon to return to England, with the good news of a great reduction in the Nawab's debt. John Smith resigned his service before the receipt of the Company's despatch

of March 13. Public discussion of men's characters is a very delicate matter. Council wish that the Company had not called Smith's conduct 'exceptionable,' as it is thought no more is meant than that his abilities were unequal to the weight of Government. Richard Fairfield has proceeded to Masulipatam to relieve John Andrews who was to go home. Owing to ill health Daniel Morse has resigned his Secretaryship and has been succeeded by Aldersey, while Thomas Kelsal takes up Aldersey's place in the Secret department. John Palmer (factor) died June 30; Donald Ross, June 27 at Pondichery. Peter Jackson (writer) was drowned June 22 while bathing in the river. Of this season's writers, Barnard, Crawford, and Hollond have arrived. Although Wynch and Polier may have been very blameable for the waste of stores, etc., during the siege of Fort St. David, it is not considered that Fairfield merits blame, as he was obliged as Military Store-keeper to deliver whatever was demanded.

In regard to the Council's vindication of themselves in the matter of the sale of woollen goods, believe the Company have (in Despatch of March 25, 1757) understood it in a different sense from what was intended. It was not meant to deny that the Council had heard of former Governors receiving 5 *per cent.* on the sales; but in recommending the abandonment of sale by outcry and re-establishment of sale by contract, neither the Council nor the President had the least idea of re-establishing the 5 *per cent.* commission. 'We do now solemnly promise that whatever method may be used or tried in future, we will not appropriate to ourselves any advantage whatever.' Broadcloth brought from Bengal in 1755 was reported to us to be so dear that it sold here under the price limited to us for your consignment. As regards the cloth said to have been sold at Masulipatam from the Prussian ship, Moracin (who was Chief there at the time) says that he does not know of any cloth being landed there from that ship. The principal dealers in woollen goods have assured the President that not more than 600 bales can be sold in these parts of the country. It is true that practically every one uses it for his saddlecloth, the pinjaree of his palankin, and for his slippers, but it is said that much finds its way from Bombay, Bengal and Persia. By all information available, the French have not for years sent out more cloth than was needed to clothe their troops. The Dutch and Danes are said not to import more than 40 or 50 bales a year. It is uncommon to see any cloth in India but what

seems to be of English manufacture. When broadcloth was sold by contract, it fetched 30 *per cent.* upon the invoice reckoning the pagoda at 9 shillings. That sold at outcry fetched 15 or 16 *per cent.* reckoning the pagoda at 8 shillings. The difference therefore was small. It is believed that sale by outcry will make but small difference either in price or consumption. The merchants offer to take by contract 600 bales at 20 *per cent.* on the invoice reckoning the pagoda at 8 shillings, but refused to take 1,000 bales at even invoice price. As engagement in the Company's contracts gives a merchant credit, it is considered that the best course is to deliver the broadcloth to the merchants who provide the Company's calicoes, as it gives them public consideration, and those who exert themselves in providing the investment may be rewarded with a proportionate share of the broadcloth. We shall however dispose of what we now have by public outcry, and as the permission to Company's servants to bid may make a difference, the system of receiving sealed proposals shall be tried next year. Regarding cloth sold at the last sale, the merchants complain that the invoice price is higher than usual, and that the length is very unequal. Desire that every piece if possible, should measure 23 yards. Regret the passages in the despatch by the *Warren* which gave the Company offence, but hope it is understood that the Council were hurried into these thoughts by a sense of unmerited distrust on the part of the Company. Instead of adding more in vindication of themselves, Council offer entire submission to the Company's reproof in this happy crisis produced by the lenient course adopted. The Company's rebukes seem to cover an indulgent attention for which the Council feel gratitude. 'We will to the utmost of our power repay the confidence you place in us with obedience to your commands.' A faithful statement of the advantages enjoyed by the Council will be sent by the next shipping. 'We shall be perfectly satisfied and contented with such allowances as will barely suffice to defray the necessary charges of living in such a manner as our several stations require and we shall most willingly trust to our industry for acquiring of fortunes.' If a change in the method of Government be made, recommend that members of Council should be freed from the particular appointments they now hold, which should be transferred to the senior merchants, while the Councillors should be formed into Committees to superintend and report to the whole Board. This will remove all partialities and undue

perquisites and advantages. Some Committees have already been formed, but lately Council have met so often that members have been unable to attend at once to the duties of their appointment and work of the Committee.

In April last, Monson represented that the allowances of subaltern officers and private men when in quarters were insufficient to maintain them properly, whereas in Europe they had various methods of supporting themselves. Monson was informed that the Council could do no more than lay his representations before the Company. Major Joseph Smith resigned his commission in August owing to ill health. Captains Richard Smith and William Elliot have also resigned. Enclose a list showing promotions in the commissioned officers. Bullock (formerly a third mate on the *Pocock*) was detained in India because it was believed he would make a good officer as he has since proved. He is now with the army. Trust that the Company will approve our not adding him to the number of passengers these ships are to take. If there had been Councillors 'capable of using cunning or partial artifice' they left India long ago. Admit that permitting Captain Beaver's son to go to England on furlough for education was extraordinary. It was hoped that consideration for Beaver's services and his large family would have induced the Company to sanction this step. He and his wife are now dead, leaving 3 infants entirely destitute. They are not the only objects of charity here. The Council are precluded from doing anything without Company's orders; the church stock is insufficient to maintain so large a burden; so that the expense must fall heavily on the Company's servants. If Lieutenant John Ray of the Bombay detachment was possessed of any effects, they must have been received by Captain Forbes of Bombay. Will mention this matter to the Bombay Council. It appears that the Company's commands of December 31, will hardly encourage passage of invalids home. They cost more here to maintain than in England. We have about 300, most troublesome even in garrison. Many are arrack sellers, crowding our barracks and making others unhealthy.

The proposals made for maintaining European cavalry when advertised for tender, were so extravagant that the matter was managed by Charles Bourchier for the Company. In June, Captain Donald Campbell, Commandant of Cavalry, offered to feed the horses and keep their accoutrements in repair at 10¾ pagodas a month each while in the field, and 6¾ pagodas while in garrison or

cantonment, and to supply boots at 2 pagodas a year each man. These proposals, being less than the cost under Bourchier's management, were accepted.

Sumatra affairs.

The Mayor and Aldermen have taken the oaths of allegiance to His present Majesty. The office of town-jailor has been executed for some time without emoluments. An allowance of 5 pagodas a month has now been made.

H.M.Ss. *Seaford* and *Sea Horse* arrived July 11 and 30, respectively. The agent victualler, Nicholas Morse, is at present declining to pay for cattle supplied to the Squadron by Yusuf Khan and charged in his accounts. Lieutenant Dundass proceeds on the *Prince Edward* with a packet from Cornish. Forward an account of extraordinary expenses in the hospital on account of His Majesty's sick, duly certified by the Commanding officers.

Supplement: Send copies of the Proclamation of George III. Forward an account of the transit of the Venus on June 6, prepared by Reverend Mr. Hirst, a Member of the Royal Society, for which reason and on account of his modesty, the report is addressed to Lord Macclesfield instead of to the Company. It is understood that his is the most reliable observation made in these parts, and he is warmly recommended to the Company. In consequence of no vessels calling at Madeira, the Company's servants have been under great distress these 2 years for a supply of wine. As regards cotton sent to China by Bourchier, it was a cargo he had long had in his hands with no prospect of selling it on the Coast or Bengal. He freighted it on a Company's ship to China as the price there seemed to promise advantage. This was when the siege of Madras was threatened, and but for Bourchier's cotton, the Company's ships would have sailed empty to China. The family of Carvalho has been permitted to occupy their old house in the White Town which was confiscated along with those of other Roman Catholics after the rendition of Madras. The Carvalhos are regarded as being favourable to the English. News from Sumatra. Send accounts of charges up to June 30, for the maintenance of French prisoners. Arrival of the *Warren* October 1. Diamonds, etc., registered amount to 51,729 Pags The balance in the Treasury is 22,100 Madras Pags. and 31,712 Arcot Rs. and in the cash chest 5,018 Star Pags. [There is a note at the end of the despatch by Samuel Ardley, stating that he has

been obliged to withdraw his offer to go to Sumatra as he is incapable of undertaking it.]

Postscript: Bills are drawn on the Company for 397 Pags. [Since closing the letter, report October 3, (p. 84) of the arrival of the *Fox* with Lawrence, Palk and Pybus.]

Appended are:—

(1) letter to St. Helena, dated October 2, 1761 (p. 85);

(2) list of military officers on the Coast (pp. 86–88);

(3) lists of the packets (pp. 89–95);

(4) list of passengers by the *Prince Edward*, among whom are George Mackay, William Tough (his servant), Lieutenant Dundass, his servant, William Elliot, and 15 charterparty passengers (p. 95);

(5) list of passengers by the *Falmouth*, including John Andrews, with 2 servants, Elizabeth Empson, Alexander Hall and 14 charterparty passengers (p. 96);

(6) manifest of private presents sent to friends in England, (p. 97);

(7) register of diamonds, etc. (pp. 98–101);

(8) lists of books, etc. (pp. 102–105); and

(9) sailing orders to Captain James Dale of the *Falmouth* (pp. 105–107).

DESPATCH FROM THE MADRAS SELECT COMMITTEE, TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, OCTOBER, 2, 1761. [*Military Despatches to England, Vol.* 3, *pp.* 25–31 (*copy*, 6½ *pp.*)]

Cite despatch of March 6. Refer to correspondence regarding the scheme for an attack on the French Isles. (Military Consultations, March 21, April 14, June 15 and 25 and July 3.)

Commodore Tiddeman sailed August 4, with H.M.Ss. *Elizabeth*, *America*, *Falmouth*, *Chatham* and *Seaford*, taking with him Colonel Monson and a detachment of the Highland regiment. (Military Consultations, July 22, 24). A few days before the arrival of Tiddeman, the *Seaford* frigate arrived with a single letter for Steevens, which being opened by Tiddeman, occasioned his writing a letter on departure (Military Consultations, July 22), copy of which was sent to Cornish at Bombay. He must have sailed thence September 1, before he could receive the later orders brought by the *Alderny*. Have not been explicitly informed of the destination of the ships; but as it was thought to be Mauritius, the *Plassey*, a country ship, was bought and despatched with a party of soldiers under Captain Robert Fletcher to secure information

regarding the French Isles. He returned July 24 with a prize, the *Mignon*, taken at Diego Rais, and was able to give Tiddeman information regarding the French shipping at Mauritius. Tiddeman forbade the *Mignon* to be sold as he did not think us authorised to make prizes on the seas; but as we think otherwise, she was sold for 2,900 Pags. Enclose depositions regarding her.

Pondichery and all its neghbouring forts and places have been destroyed. We have not succeeded in pleasing every one, mainly because of our attachment to the Company's interests. The captors claimed the military stores taken there. Tyagar surrendered to Major Preston March 13, and Gingee soon after. These events ended the war on the Coast. Call has gone to Masulipatam and Divi Island. Have sent 80 officers and Company's servants home *via* China; others to Bengal; and more to Bombay; and the *Prince Edward* and *Falmouth* carry home De Leyrit with all his Council, Brigadier-General Landivisiau and about 80 of the principal officers and servants, including Father Lavaur, Superior of the Jesuits. When these are out of the way, no one will remain capable of re-establishing a government, should news of peace be received. Depositions regarding Dubois go on the *Falmouth* on which De Ferre is a passenger. On enquiry, it was found that many of the officers of Lally's regiment were English subjects.

Colonel Coote sailed for Bengal March 9. When the expedition to Mauritius was abandoned, about 600 of his regiment were sent up to Bengal on the *Fatteh Salaam* and other country ships; the remainder will be sent by the *Fox* and *Warren* if they do not arrive too late. News from Bengal of tranquillity there.

Enclose copies of the most important papers intercepted during the siege of Pondichery, among others are the orders to Lally and D'Aché from the Court of France. When the Mauritius expedition was laid aside, it was resolved to assist the Nawab to reduce the Rajas and Poligars to obedience. Caillaud is now lying with his army before Vellore. Bourchier and Dupré are field deputies with the army, to keep themselves acquainted with all treaties the Nawab makes and the amounts received, out of which the expenses of the army are first to be paid. The Company is to get two-thirds of the balance. Vellore has been first attacked as the Killedar is a bad man and should be made an example of, as a warning to others. Several country powers, among others Salabat Jang, have solicited the assistance of our troops. Salabat Jang now appears to be

little better than a prisoner in his brother Nizam Ali's camp, but the latter is equally anxious for our help against the Marathas.

The whole province is in a most distracted condition. His other brother Basalat Jang is pretending to act for Salabat Jang, but is aiming at something for himself. Each offers alliances and farmans, but to agree with one would involve contentions with the others. Indeed we are not desirous of grasping at more than we can hold. So long as the country at present under the Nawab's management is tranquil, he should be able to pay off his debt in 2 years, and if that can be secured, we are fortunate indeed. Captain Robert Barker of the artillery, complains of defects in some of the brass six-pounders. A gun is returned on each ship. That mentioned to have opened at the battle of Wandiwash will be sent by a future conveyance.

Appended are lists of the packets (pp. 32–34).

DESPATCH FROM THE MADRAS SELECT COMMITTEE, TO THE SECRET COMMITTEE. FORT ST. GEORGE, OCTOBER 2, 1761. [*Military Despatches to England, Vol.* 3, *pp.* 35–37 (*copy*, 3 *pp.*)]

[This goes by the *Falmouth*]. Now that the contest with the French is over, anticipate that few matters will come under the direction of the Select Committee as it is to deal only with matters of a secret nature. Pigot regrets that he omitted to report the destination of the *Cuddalore* schooner, by the *Warren*, but he sent a full account of the projected voyage by the unfortunate ship *Ajax*. Last year he sent out positive orders for Dalrymple's return, whether he has completed his business or not. He has repeated the same order this year. Are much gratified that the Committee's action about the cartel has been approved. Consider that the dispute with His Majesty's officers might have been prevented, or much more easily suppressed, had the real extent of their powers been known. The confidence expressed by the Company in favour of their covenanted servants will doubtless receive grateful returns. Men whose minds by education and a commerce with the world are enlarged, cannot but feel a warmth and zeal in proportion to the confidence reposed in them. The attacks on the Company's privileges would have been opposed with greater confidence had the Company's servants thought that they were certain of the Company's support. As compensation in lieu of interest on the large sums advanced

on the Nawab's account, the grant of some districts conveniently situated may be demanded and easily obtained.

DESPATCH FROM GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 15, 1762. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 23, *pp.* 108–114, (*copy*, 6½ *pp.*)]

The *Falmouth* and *Prince Edward* sailed October 6, 1761, with De Leyrit and 90 principal French officers, prisoners from Pondichery. Ships' movements. This goes *via* Bombay. Acknowledge the receipt of despatch of May 6, 1761, by the *Norfolk*. Arrival of the *Prince Henry* yesterday with 60 slaves from Madagascar. We shall have here about 400 bales for which a Bengal ship is expected to call in February. The *Fatteh Salaam*, employed in the Company's service in Bombay, was despatched August 25 to Bengal with Major Robert Gordon, 280 of Coote's regiment and about 100 French volunteers. Two days after sailing she sprang a leak and had to be deserted. The commander with Major Gordon and 37 others (including officers, passengers and women) reached land south of 'Jaggernautporam' 6 days later. No one else can have been saved, and only 6 have as yet reached Bengal, Gordon and others having died on the road. The *Fatteh Salaam* had also some guns, shot and shells for Calcutta. The re-establishment of Sumatra factories under Ardley who sailed November 21.

The army has again taken the field to assist the Nawab in collecting the poligars' tributes. It had been arranged to besiege Vellore, before the last rains, but it proved stronger than expected, being encompassed by a deep wet ditch 200 feet broad; and the Killedar made a gallant defence which cost many men. He surrendered at last December 26, 1761. The army is now marching to reduce Nellore which will secure territories worth 4 lakhs of rupees a year, which is held of late by a rebellious illegitimate brother of the Nawab.

A French man-of-war, 72 guns, and 3 other French ships are reported at Batavia. On being informed at Bombay that French ships had sailed from the Isles to cruise in the Straits for homeward bound Chinamen, Captain Tinker who was left there by Cornish with the *Medway*, sailed in search of them, being fortunately joined at Anjengo by the *Panther* and *Baleine*.

The military and stores deposited at Malacca have been brought here. The Governor of Malacca has given all possible assistance. Report Maratha troubles in Bengal.

DESPATCH FROM GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, APRIL 8, 1762. [*Military Despatches to England, Vol.* 3, *pp.* 38–50 (*copy*, 12½ *pp.*)]

Cite despatch of October 2, 1761, and January 15, 1762. After the surrender of Vellore, the Company's troops moved towards the Nellore country. The faujdars, killedars and poligars have been almost incredibly obstinate, though it is morally certain that they must yield in the long run. Scarcely one makes a voluntary submission. Najib-ul-lah Khan, the Nawab's half-brother and killedar of Nellore, has misbehaved for some years in such a way as to render it impossible to leave him in repose. He had no protection but a paltry mud fort which he abandoned as soon as attacked, and took refuge with the poligar of Udayagiri, but the latter delivered him up on the threat of having his country destroyed if he did not. This put an end to the disturbances in the Nellore country. Though thus far the operations of the army have been expensive without getting any money, the Nawab was put in possession of valuable districts. The army then marched against Bangaru Yachama Nayakkan, Poligar of Venkatagiri, with whom the Nawab compromised for 2½ lakhs of rupees. Then it marched against Damerla Venkatapati Nayakkan, Poligar of Kalahasti, who made his peace for 1½ lakhs of rupees. Bommarazu, in whose territories the army now lies, is expected to settle in a few days. The army will then go into cantonments during the hot season unless perhaps it is decided to reduce Arni, a place of no great strength. A Coffree company with a number of sepoys will be able to reduce 'the Mount Poligars.' The original agreement with the Nawab has not been followed to this extent, that the expenses of the army have not been defrayed before any disbursement of the collection took place. It was thought that the first plan would lead to some confusion; and there was nothing to gain by it, as the charges of the Nawab's army would be at least half as much as ours. Nellore has been included in the revenues of which the Nawab assigned 50 lakhs this year. For the Vellore jaghir, he agreed to pay 1,80,000 Rs. for the current revenue year. The Nawab's demand from the King of Tanjore forms the largest item in the arrears he claims, but his demands cannot be taken for granted to be just. The only principle of Eastern princes is to make large demands of which they subsequently accept a tenth. It is however certain that the Tanjore country has been protected by our successes, and must therefore contribute towards

defraying the cost of the war. However, it would take a respectable force to subdue. As the cost of this would be considerable, the Nawab has been advised to prefer obtaining a much smaller sum by way of negotiation. The Council have offered themselves as mediators between the King of Tanjore and the Nawab, offering to guarantee the terms settled. The King has replied in a long letter, reciting his friendly services, the ravages of his country, and his inability to pay anything. This answer is as exaggerated as the Nawab's claims, and the Council will make further trial by negotiation, which will be supported by placing the principal bodies of the army in cantonments at Chidambaram on the Tanjore frontier, and by sending ammunition to Trichinopoly. These measures, it is hoped, will lead to a reasonable accommodation.

Both Cornish and Tiddeman returned to Madras in January after losing many men in a long cruise off Diego Rais in expectation of joining Commodore Keppel. The *Chatham*, *York* and the Company's frigate *Revenge* will refit at the Cape whence they will rejoin the Squadron on the Coast. In March, His Majesty's ships *Falmouth* and *America* were despatched to Bombay to be docked. They are expected to return in June. The rest of the Squadron has gone off the Coast to avoid the 'little monsoon'. Cornish sailed for Trincomalee on the 9th and proposes to return in May. Captain Tinker who sailed for the Straits of Sunda in November last with the *Medway*, *Panther*, *Sea Horse* and *Balcine* is also expected, so that the whole squadron will be reunited. Unless any other service interferes, Cornish promises to convoy the China ships through the Straits.

In February, Cornish and Monson requested that some measures be taken to distribute the Karikal plunder among the captors; but we could only reply that the King's Patent expressly reserved to himself the distribution of plunder taken by his forces jointly with the Company's.

In order that the different corps out here should, as little as possible, be separated, the detachment of His Majesty's 89th regiment has been sent round to join the rest of the corps at Bombay, and the Bombay Council have been requested to send hither the 5 companies of the 96th regiment landed there in 1760. As the 2 troops of horse and the troop of Hussars already on the establishment appear sufficient for the service, Captain Freake's company of Light Horse has been sent to Bengal where they are wanted.

The French prisoners have been mainly divided between Trichinopoly and Madras, but some of them are kept at Chingleput, Karunguli and Wandiwash. The 80 prisoners at Karunguli overpowered the guard, seized the arms in the garrison, and marched off in a body carrying with them Captain Drake, the commandant, who endeavouring to escape was wounded and abandoned. Most of the prisoners were retaken on their way southwards, probably to take service with the Dutch. They were instigated to this by the French surgeon who was treated with daily civilities by the commandant. This is another instance of 'Gallic faith.' De Leyrit and others of the Council of Pondichery urged that the 'volunteers of Bourbon' might be given the liberty of the town on their parole and Leyrit himself pledged his word for their behaviour, saying that they were all gentlemen who had estates in Bourbon. After the demolition of Pondichery, they were sent to Wandiwash where they were shown the same favour which they repaid by deserting in a body. But every man was retaken at Porto Novo, and a letter was found on one of them written by one Marchand a French officer on parole at Negapatam, who had entered into the Dutch service, promising them a good reception there. On this, a letter was written to the Council at Negapatam desiring them to surrender Marchand and all other prisoners, and reproaching them for enlisting many of our prisoners and sending them to Ceylon. In reply they denied that Marchand had any authority for his letter and that, as soon as they knew he was a prisoner on parole, they broke him and turned him out of their settlement, and that they would do the same with all other French prisoners. The Frenchmen entertained and sent to Ceylon are stated to have been men that escaped from Pondichery before its surrender. We know that this is false. Most of the Bourgeois were men in needy condition and not a quarter of them could be accommodated at Madras. They were therefore allowed to go to neutral settlements and most of them probably engaged with the Dutch or the country powers.

Coulson, Captain-Lieutenant of the Cavalry, being disabled by sickness, was sent to command at Chetpattu; but after a few months, the Nawab complained that he was seizing the cattle and selling them for his own profit. On being recalled to Madras to justify himself, he deserted and joined Haidar Nayak.

Call returned from Masulipatam October 17. In order to remove as far as possible any claim the French may lay to

Masulipatam, it was ordered that their old factory house or the building used as such, should be entirely demolished and the materials sent to the island of Divi which is regarded definitely as the Company's property. The other buildings such as the arsenal, barracks, magazine, etc., cannot be restored to the French unless the Treaty of Peace expressly stipulates that the whole town should be delivered to them. All cannon, powder, etc., have been removed to Divi so that at the worst we shall only have to give up the bare walls. Send by this ship French officers and civil servants, prisoners of war. Send the brass field-piece which the Commandant of the artillery reports was that one of Bowen's brass guns which opened at the battle of Wandiwash. The French frigate, *Fidelle* of 24 guns, arrived at Negapatam and sailed again on April 7. The commander succeeded in concealing her destination. She was probably sent to secure information regarding the squadron.

Appended are lists of packets (pp. 51–52), including Dupré's narrative of his proceedings during his stay at Pondichery.

DESPATCH FROM GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, APRIL 17, 1762. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 23, *pp.* 115–150 (*copy*, 36 *pp.*)]

Cite despatch of January 15, *via* Bombay. This goes by the *Warren*.

Acknowledge the receipt of despatch, dated June 19, 1761. Shipping news. The *Cuddalore* schooner, employed by Pigot in 1759 on secret service under Alexander Dalrymple to attempt to open trade at the island of Sulu, returned January 28. As the Council had grounds to believe that the expedition under Commodore Keppel was intended against the French Isles, the Bengal Council was desired to send any unemployed Company's vessel they had, with provisions for the squadron, which, if the expedition were successful, would be employed in bringing back the Chinese and others carried away by D'Estaing from Sumatra. However the destination of Keppel's squadron was discovered before any vessel was despatched. The slaves from Madagascar received by the *Prince Henry* have been sent on to Sumatra by that vessel. The earnings of the *Admiral Watson* freighted to private persons for a Manilla voyage, down to her return February 15, are 7,949 Pags. For lack of sufficient saltpetre from Bengal, the *Admiral Watson* has had to be detained here instead of being despatched home. Landed from the *Warren* some Bengal fine goods which have been

replaced by coarse piece-goods so as to reduce the Company's risk and give them a mixed cargo. Shortly after the arrival of the *Norfolk*, the English Squadron returned after a long cruize in a sickly and distressed condition. The landing of her consignments was hindered by the necessity of using the masula boats to water and provision the ships. Even then it was not possible to get all the Madras consignments ashore as the Bengal and Madras goods had not been stowed separately. Captain Freake's company of Light Horse was sent on to Bengal on the *Norfolk*, the ship that brought them out. Captain Conohie demanded further considerations, alleging that as they had been landed, he was not obliged to receive them again. He did however receive them, and the matter is referred to the Company for settlement. A similar dispute arose with Captain Marchant of the *Chesterfield*, who demanded freight for large guns and shot sent aboard for Bengal to fill up the tonnage landed at Madras.

A copy of Alexander Dalrymple's letter regarding his voyage to Sulu is enclosed. Pigot informed the Council that he had already acquainted the Secret Committee with his intentions, and had sent at his own risk a small cargo for the purchase of refreshments at ports unfrequented by Europeans. Dalrymple was able to dispose of the remainder of it at Sulu for articles in demand at Canton, under an agreement given by the Sultan that he should make good any deficiency the goods should produce under 100 *per cent.* on the invoice price of the Madras cargo. The principal articles received were birds' nest and bêche-de-mer. Pigot is willing to deliver the return cargoes to the Company in return for the cost price of his outward cargo. His offer has been accepted. The Council consider that Dalrymple has taken great pains to examine the trade, etc., of the Eastern Islands, and has acquitted himself with ability. Whilst at Sulu he made a contract with the principal men there for the sale of Coast and other goods this season, in return for goods to be delivered in stipulated proportions and at fixed prices, amounting to double the invoice value of the Coast cargo, and under covenant that these goods shall produce at Canton 100 *per cent.* on the Sulu price. In spite of difficulties to be expected in all new undertakings, the Council consider that this place seems to open a field for the great extension of the Company's trade, which is facilitated by the reputation achieved by the Company's military successes here. There are apparently no treaty obligations prohibiting the English from acquiring

possessions or conducting trade at any of the Eastern Isles not possessed by the Spaniards. The cruelty and tyranny of the Dutch have become intolerable everywhere, and the indolence of the Spaniards in the Philippines deprives them of all consideration. Intend to despatch the *Royal George* on a voyage to Sulu on the Company's account, with such part of the cargo promised by Dalrymple as can be procured by the end of this month, to be exchanged for the stipulated goods for the Canton market. Dalrymple believes that articles for the Europe market may be procured at Sulu. He will be directed to do so if possible. Shall send a covenanted servant as Dalrymple's assistant to succeed in case of his death. Regret that the accounts of the *Prince Henry* packet were not kept in the proper form. As the captain and officers of the *Plassey* sent to Mauritius were unable to make any advantage of their private trade, they have been given suitable allowances.

In December, 1761, the woollen goods remaining were put up at outcry, and fetched a larger profit than for many years, as no more was expected on the market till the arrival of the next year's shipping. Copper here as usual sold for about 84 Pags. a candy. A considerable quantity is on hand, and as part of that sold in December has not yet been cleared, no more will be offered till May. Besides the 600 bales of woollens which the merchants are willing to contract for, send a further indent of goods for the import warehouse which is in modification of that formerly sent.

The *Royal George*, was consigned to Madras by the Canton supracargoes, with a lading on the Company's account which was sold at outcry. Voyages on this plan will seldom be more profitable. As Manilla dollars are more proper for the China market than any other silver, have bought 73,700 dollars from those concerned, in the Manilla voyage, 4 chests of which have been used to replace the *Osterley's* West Coast treasure; 4 chests for buying a cargo for the *Fox* at Batavia, and the remainder 41,000 dollars will be sent to China. Have received 5 lakhs of rupees from Bengal by the *Saubat Jang*; they propose to send 5 more; Bombay may draw on them for 5 lakhs, all to be sent to China. As no ships can be despatched thither for some months, it is intended to apply 3 lakhs to pay off debts remaining here at interest. It is hoped that it will be possible to replace this when the China ships are despatched; but in any case, 7 lakhs of Bengal money, the 41,000 dollars and between 600 to 1,000 tons of pepper from

Sumatra, and the Sulu cargo will amount to a large increase in the China investment.

It is hoped that it will now be possible to discharge debts and have some ready money to employ in the investment. By the end of next month, it is hoped to clear off almost all the old debts which will be of great service to the settlement and therefore for the Company's affairs, as want of money has caused a stagnation of business, hindering merchants from furnishing goods for the Company on credit.

The Council is resolved to merit the Company's confidence. Any departure from the fundamental rules laid down can only be made with great reluctance, but it is feared that it will not be practicable for the investment to be provided without advances. The merchants are much reduced in circumstances and those best acquainted with the Northern investments believe that there are no merchants there wealthy enough to undertake anything considerable on their own stock. A trial however shall be made. Have called for proposals for the provision of the various sorts of cloths required. Turner has been sent as Chief of Cuddalore to assemble the merchants to make proper preparations for opening an investment there.

Enclose the declaration made by Captain Tatam, Lieutenants Pilmore and Grant, regarding the help given by the Dutch to D'Estaing in his expedition to Fort Marlborough. The Company is also referred to a letter from Wyat (Consultations, February 16 and November 5).

Enclose letter from Call regarding the works on hand. The Betel and Tobacco farm has been re-let for 29,550 Pags. a year. This exceeded expectations. When it was last let, the bounds were extended 'to a circumference of six miles north and nine miles south of Madras.' It was doubted how much this extension might produce; and the highest offer was only 11,200 Pags. The present purchaser is believed to have had a hard bargain; the late farmer offered nothing like this sum. The farms belonging to Masulipatam will be re-let for one year as it is not certain what will be done about these possessions at a general peace. Have ordered Fairfield to advertise for sealed proposals which will be received either at Masulipatam or Madras. This is thought preferable to the method of sale by outcry, for it enables persons residing elsewhere to apply, and avoids suspicion of such collusion

as Linga Chetti was unjustly accused of regarding the Tiruvendipuram farm in 1756.

Andrews went to Europe on the *Warren*, and James Alexander was appointed to the vacant place in Council. The gratuity of £200 a year to Edward Croke from September 25, 1758, to February 25, 1759, was paid to his attorney here. This is mentioned in case it is demanded of the Company in England. The allowances of the Chiefs of Cuddalore, Masulipatam, and Vizagapatam have been fixed at 400 Rupees a month in full for all charges. The number and pay of all servants at the several subordinate factories have also been fixed. Daniel Morse, junior merchant, died after a long illness on October 5. Matthew Clarke had been permitted to go to Manilla on account of ill-health. Henry Eustace Johnson has been permitted to go home on the *Warren*. William Cumming, writer of the year before last, has resigned on account of ill-health. These 3 juniors are a loss to our service. Augustus de Morgan has been permitted to exchange his civil for military employment. John Hollond has executed his covenant. Nicholas Barnard and John Maclean have been put under the Engineer. Samuel Stavely has been permitted to go as Chaplain to Bengal to succeed Butler. His place has been taken by the Reverend Samuel Griffiths, Chaplain of His Majesty's 79th Regiment, until the Company's pleasure is known. Enclose a list of Divinity books wanted by the ministers and church wardens. Enclose an account of all perquisites received by the Company's servants here. Believe it is just and true (Consultation February 2). Recommend that all fees and perquisites be abolished and such salaries and allowances assigned to each grade or station 'as you shall think sufficient to support that rank in a decent and becoming manner.' However there are some employs, such as the Secretary's, which may be executed by servants of the lowest rank and yet merit by the nature of the service larger advantages. Repeat the Council's former recommendations that Members of Council should be disburdened of the charge of particular employs.

Finding that contracts offer advantages in some of the Company's business, the following have at various times been advertised—for providing redwood, for executing the office of scavenger, for victualling and clothing the French prisoners, for dieting, clothing, etc., the patients in the hospital. The following contracts have been made—for redwood by Turing at 3¾

Pagodas *per* candy for the China sort and 2¾ Pagodas for the Europe sort; for scavenging, by Tiruvengadam and Nallatambi for 80 Pagodas a month; for victualling the French prisoners, by Henry Eustace Johnson at 3¼ fanams a day *per* head reckoning 42 fanams a Pagoda; for clothing them, by James Alexander at 4 Pagodas for a complete set; for dieting in-patients at 3¼ fanams a day *per* head at 36 fanams *per* Pagoda; for supplying the hospitals with necessaries at 6 fanams a day at 36 fanams *per* Pagoda. All these have involved savings.

Regarding the case against Edwards, Assaymaster, suspected of having perpetrated a fraud regarding a pot of gold sent to the mint for coinage, the matter was first heard by the Mayor's Court in a suit brought by Edwards, when judgment was given in his favour. On appeal, the Council reversed the decision of the Mayor's Court as the suit was evidently vexatious, and even Edwards, weak as he was, would not have urged such an enquiry into his conduct had he not given himself to bad, litigious and malevolent advisers. He has now appealed to the King in Council. It does not appear that Dupré has any personal concern in the suit. He was merely performing the duties of his office. It is not doubted but that the Company will undertake the defence of its servants whenever they were personally attaked in the discharge of their trust. For these reasons, Dupré's expenses have all been paid and it is requested that the Company's Solicitor may undertake his defence before the Privy Council.

Bullock now goes home by the *Warren*. It is much regretted that the manner of his appointment should have drawn the Company's displeasure on the Council and on him. 'We often do things that in appearance are wrong and yet we do them in a good intention, often thro' necessity.' Bullock is really a good officer. He is approved by all his superior and brother officers, and will be ruined if the Company decides against him. Request that he may be restored to his rank.

Since 1760, Coxeter, who was dismissed from the chaplaincy at Tellicherry, has been here trying to obtain a passage to Europe, with nothing to support himself and his family but the relief of the charitable. The church stock is not even large enough to provide for the necessities of those in some measure entitled to its support being natives of the colony; and besides these there are many whose long residence and connections have a prior claim to charity. Recommend that all who come out in the Company's

service or by their special leave, and subsequently become indigent, should be either maintained here or sent home at the Company's expense. It will not be decent to send home a person of Coxeter's function with his family, as charterparty passengers. The Council have in consequence allowed 200 pagodas for them to be admitted to the Captain's table. They have been supplied with treble that amount out of our own pockets for the necessaries of the voyage. For the same reason, are sending home at the Company's expense the two children of Captain Beaver who died in debt without friends to undertake their maintenance. One hundred pagodas have been paid for their passage on the Company's account; but we ourselves were maintaining them at 20 pagodas a month, besides 200 pagodas for equipping them for the voyage.

Sumatra affairs.

Lewin Smith has been chosen Mayor, and George Dawson Sheriff. As the latter has since removed to Vizagapatam, Charles Smith has been appointed to succeed. Enquire whether the Mayor's Court is entitled to refuse to furnish the Court of Appeals with depositions not admitted as evidence in the Mayor's Court. The point arose in the suit of Edwards *vs.* Dupré.

On January 19, His Majesty's ship *Grafton* arrived. A few days later, Cornish with the *Norfolk, Elizabeth, Lenox, Weymouth, Falmouth,* and *America* returned from a cruise. Major Scott of the 89th has repaid the advances received. He has been permitted to refer the matter of interest thereon to Europe. The only officers of the 84th now here being unwilling to certify the accounts of stores issued, the accounts have been sent to Bengal to be tendered to Colonel Coote for signature.

Supplement: The Engineer forwards the report on the method of making gunpowder here. Treasure sent from Bengal by the *Warren* proved to be 264 Sicca rupees short. Captain Glover objected to sign the account of shortage, and it must be admitted that the chests were bad and ill-secured.. Diamonds, etc., registered amount to 1,40,579 current (Star) pagodas. The balance in the Treasury is 6,018 current (Star) pagodas, 20,100 Madras pagodas, 1,73,416 Arcot rupees and 8,515 dollars in bullion; and in the cash chest 14,350 Star pagodas.

Postscript: The bills drawn on the Company at 90 days' sight amount to 22,564 Star pagodas.

Appended are: (1) letter to St. Helena, dated April 17, 1762 (page 151); (2) lists of the packets (pages 152–156); (3) letter from

Alexander Dalrymple to Governor Pigot, dated February 27, reporting on his voyage to China, the position of islands and shoals unmarked or wrongly marked on charts, and his reception at Sulu (pages 157–173); (4) copy of articles of friendship and commerce, between Dalrymple and the Sultan, dated January 28, 1761 (pages 174–176); (5) ditto between Dalrymple and the principal men in Sulu, dated September 12, 1761 (pages 176–179); (6) list of the Company's revenues at Fort St. George, 1762 (pages 180–181); (7) register of diamonds (pages 182–187); (8) letter from Captain John Tatam and his lieutenants to Secretary Aldersey, dated March 6, 1762, regarding the assistance furnished by the Dutch at Padang to D'Estaing at Natal (pages 188-190); (9) manifest of presents sent to England, consisting of piece-goods, 2 Soosie morning gowns, and a box containing a set of China dressing boxes complete (sent by Charles Floyer to Charles Floyer, New Burlington Street, London), also a small box containing garnets (sent by the same to Richard Smith, pages 190-191); (10) list of passengers on the *Warren*, including Henry Eustace Johnson, William Cumming, Stephen Smith, Henry de la Douespe, James Hart, Josiah Bullock, George Frederick Leaver, Charles Halpenny, Robinson, Thomas Saunders, Thomas Coxeter, Mrs. Coxeter, Miss Coxeter, Robert Beaver, Miss Beaver, Master de la Mettrie, and 8 charterparty passengers, (page 191); and (11) abstract of salaries and allowances received by the various Company's servants at Madras:—

Appointment.	Diet *per mensem.*	Allowance *per mensem.*	Salary *per annum.*	Total of salary, [diet] and allowance [*per annum*].
	PAGS. FNS. C.	PAGS. FNS. C.	£ s. d.	PAGS. FNS. C.
Second of Council ...	10 0 0	26 16 9	100 0 0	687 13 28
Third of Council	10 0 0	8 23 16	70 0 0	398 26 32
Fourth of Council ...	10 0 0	8 23 16	50 0 0	348 26 32
Fifth of Council	10 0 0	8 23 16	40 0 0	323 26 32
Chief at a subordinate ...	...	100 0 0	...	1,300 0 0
Senior Merchant	8 0 0	0 23 25	40 0 0	203 27 60
Junior Merchant	8 0 0	0 23 25	30 0 0	178 27 60
Factor	8 0 0	0 23 25	15 0 0	141 9 60
Writer	8 0 0	0 23 25	5 0 0	116 9 60

DESPATCH FROM [GEORGE PIGOT, ETC.,] TO THE COMPANY. [FORT ST. GEORGE, AUGUST 2, 1762. *'Military Despatches to England, Vol.* 3, *pp.* 53–60—*Incomplete. Paras.* 16 *to* 19 *missing.*]

Acknowledge the receipt of despatches, dated September 30, 1761 and January 21, 1762, and other papers regarding the expedition against Manilla. His Majesty's Ship *Argo* arrived June 27 with Brigadier-General Draper. As the Chief and Second in command of the Squadron were absent, there was nothing to be done immediately but prepare for the expedition. Have also written to Bombay for the detachment of Monson's regiment and whatever men and stores they could spare. On July 8, Cornish arrived with the *Norfolk, Weymouth, America, Seaford, Argo, Elizabeth, Lenox, Grafton, Falmouth,* and *Panther.* The Council for the Expedition met according to the King's instructions. Enclose a copy of their letter regarding the troops necessary. After due consideration, the majority of the Council agreed that the number of men demanded might be furnished, as most of the squadron and land forces might be expected to return by the end of January and as we were in daily expectation of the 300 men by the *Walpole, Hardwicke,* and *Drake.* As His Majesty's Squadron could not embark all the men and stores, the *Essex* and *Osterley* had to be employed as transports. We hope that they may be discharged in time to reach China this season. Have furnished the stores required for the expedition. Appointment of provisional Deputy Governor and others for the new territories. Enclose copy of instructions given them. It has been ordered that the Commander in garrison shall sit in Council whenever military matters are discussed; and, in case of Manilla being attacked, they have been directed to call in such three officers as Draper shall select. Regret to report a dispute as to the division of the plunder. As His Majesty was pleased to leave the division of plunder taken within the limits of the Company's Charter, to be settled by the Commanders-in-chief and the Company, and as Draper had agreed that the Company should have one half, Pigot conferred with Cornish and Draper who agreed on an equal distribution of plunder between the captors and the Company; but when the articles of agreement were presented for signature, they were rejected and another method of division insisted on. Draper and Cornish were then desired to furnish a positive answer to the Council's proposal to appoint an agent conjointly with theirs in taking an inventory of stores, and they were also desired to be present

at the Council when instructions for the Deputy Governor were to be prepared. Their reply seemed definite, but the end of the letter gave reason to fear that Draper intended to leave behind him an officer independent of the Deputy Governor and Council. Before the Council could meet to consider this matter, Cornish and Draper embarked, but a letter was sent off to them by one of the Admiral's lieutenants, and separate instructions were given to the Deputy Governor and Council in which they were ordered to refuse to take charge unless they were to have sole and entire management. In order however to prevent any material loss that might arise from this refusal to take charge, they were ordered in such case to advance the Commanders-in-chief up to 2 lakhs of rupees for bills on the Royal Treasury at the exchange of 6s. 6d. *per* weighty dollar. Affairs stood thus when Cornish sailed August 1. Captain Robert Fletcher has been allowed to proceed as Brigadier-Major. He hopes that a change of air may benefit his health. If it does not, the Deputy Governor, etc., have been ordered to permit him to go home with their despatches. As his conduct has been very meritorious, he is recommended for permission to return if he recovers his health. [*The rest of the despatch* (*paras.* 17 *to* 19) *is missing.* The Abstract of Military Despatches, Vol. I, p. 53, shows that the missing paras relate to 'the necessity of sending out constant supplies of men.']

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC. LONDON, SEPTEMBER 30 AND OCTOBER 7, 1761. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 64, *pp.* 165—179 (*original,* 15 *pp.*)]

Cite despatches of November 5, December 31, 1760, January 21, March 13 and 27, May 6 and June 19, 1761. Arrival of shipping. This goes by the *London* snow, so that early orders may be received at Madras for the provision of a stock of treasure for the China ships. Have taken up 20 ships for this season, of which 6 (the *Tilbury, Hardwicke, Walpole, Drake, Clinton* and a new ship) are for the Coast and Bay, and 3 (the *Essex, Houghton* and a new ship) are for Coast and China, on the same terms as last season. Consign to Madras 406 bales of cloth, 25 of long ells, 230 tons of copper and about 40 tons each of lead and iron; to Bengal 1,336 bales of cloth, 125 of long ells, 300 of broad ells, 400 tons of copper and 40 to 50 tons each of lead and iron; to Bombay, 2,030 bales of cloth, 400 of long ells, 110 of broad ells, 540 tons of copper, and 30 to 40 tons each of lead and iron; to Sindh, Persia, etc., 512 bales of cloth, 330 of long

ells; and for China 610 bales of cloth, 783 of long ells, 20 of camblets and hairbines and 500 to 600 tons of lead. Intend to consign 430 pipes of wine from Madeira for Madras and Bengal, and 100 for Bombay. Presume that large quantities of stores will have been secured by the capture of Pondichery, and therefore have reduced the quantities now sent out. Send besides for the squadron 700 tons of victualling, and 500 tons of naval stores, besides 100 tons of clothing for land forces. About 70 recruits will proceed for Colonel Draper's battalion. Consider that the capture of Pondichery, and the revolution in Bengal with the consequent increase in revenues, render it needless to send any treasure except to Fort Marlborough. Presume that the capture of Pondichery will give you such a command of the revenues of the Carnatic that (with the payments on account of the Nawab's debt), the proceeds of the settled revenues and the reduction of military expenses will enable the Council not only to provide for the expenses of the investment of the presidency, but also to provide treasure to the amount of £30,000 or at least £25,000 on each of the 3 China ships. In case Madras alone cannot provide this sum, strenuous application must be made to Bombay and Bengal. Directions regarding the re-establishment of the Sumatra factories. Owing to difficulties in settling the preliminary articles, no steps have yet been taken to hold the proposed congress at Augsburg. A Bristol privateer has taken a French ship (600 tons) bound to the Isle of Bourbon. The *Subtile* a French frigate from Mauritius, was captured by a man-of-war, but little can be learnt from the prisoners that were taken. Many other French prizes have been made. Acknowledge the good services of every one concerned in the capture of Pondichery, an event of great importance to the nation. Not only the officers but also the private men of all the forces of the Company are to receive the Company's thanks, particularly Admirals Cornish and Steevens, Colonels Coote and Monson and Governor Pigot who has had a great share in contributing to the reduction of this rival and dangerous settlement. The *London* packet now sent may be disposed of in such a manner as the Council think best. The Commander, Captain Baker, is a man we value and should be provided for in our service in such a manner as to reward him for his long, diligent and faithful services. Have presented him with £300 as a reward for bringing the news of the fall of Pondichery, as he was not allowed to carry any private trade, and £130 for his expenses in keeping a table for himself and officers and 2 French

officers of rank. Have also allowed £50, 30 and 20 to the 3 mates in consideration of their not being indulged in any private trade.

Supplement: Arrival of ships. Appointment of China supra cargoes. John Moore, late chaplain in Bengal but going to Fort Marlborough is shown as a chaplain at Madras on the same pay as one properly belonging to that establishment. The exchange between Moore and Butler of chaplaincies in Bengal and Fort Marlborough was entirely unjustified and was brought about for private reasons. As a mark of the Company's disapproval, have determined to recall Moore. On receipt of this despatch he is to be discharged and sent home. He should have repaid the £100 lent him when sent out. If not already paid, it should be recovered. Enclose letters from the Secretary at War, Charles Townshend, to Lawrence and Monson. Understand that His Majesty grants the latter leave to return to England.

Postcript: Shipping news.

Appended are (1) copies of the contract with and instructions to Captain George Baker of the *London* (pp. 239-246); (2) news, &c. from the *Subtile*, French prize from Mauritius (pp. 203-205).

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO GEORGE PIGOT &C. LONDON, DECEMBER 23, 1761. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 65, *pp.* 1-16 (*original*, 16 *pp.*)]

Cite despatch of October 7, 1761. Arrival of shipping. Of the ships taken up this season, the *Stormont* has been replaced by the *Horsendon*. This goes by the *Tilbury* consigned to Madras and Bengal with sundry goods and recruits for His Majesty's forces. The other Coast and Bay ships will be despatched about the beginning of February. Usual orders for the speedy despatch of China ships. Captain Howe of the *Winchelsea* will proceed from Bombay to Bengal. As he has been recommended to us by the greatest persons in the Kingdom, the Company wishes to indulge him so far as is consistent with the Company's interest. If his vessel can be employed on freight, so as to cover the charges of demurrage, it will fall in with our intentions. If opportunity arises, the same course is to be adopted regarding the *Godolphin* (Captain Hutchinson), as it is our interest to oblige those who have patronised him.[1] Repeat orders for the despatch to China of vessels

[1] Letting out the vessels at freight would provide their captains with an opportunity of taking part in the Country trade.

which cannot be sent home the same season. The larger the remittances to Canton, the better, as the China trade is a certain source of profit; and in view of the present great demand for teas here, as large supplies as possible should be sent. Orders in case the Sumatra factories have not been re-established. In case John Call has not been sent to Sumatra, he is to be sent thither forthwith. If he cannot be spared, some other capable Engineer should be sent, in order to frame a plan for fortifying the settlement on such a scale as may be defensible by not more than 400 Europeans. If any one goes in room of Call he should be allowed the same pay, &c., as he received at Madras without addition unless it be really necessary. Further particulars regarding the exports of this season. 430 pipes of Madeira will be sent out for Madras and Bengal to be equally divided between them. It is our express orders that you forward the full quantity of 215 pipes to Bengal. Wine is to be carefully surveyed and report made as to its quality and leakage. It must be sold at a profit, otherwise the consignment will be discontinued. None is to be distributed to the President, Councillors or other persons without payment. Definite quantities are to be set apart for our covenant and military servants and issued to them at 20 *per cent.* on the prime cost; the rest is to be sold at outcry at not less than the rate of issue to the Company's servants. Stores, &c., consigned to China and Sumatra. Are sending Government stores consisting of 497 tons of naval, and 696 of victualling stores and 103 tons of clothing for the military. On being landed, they are to be delivered to the proper officers. The Government are sending about 670 soldiers to India. The recruits of Draper's battalion will sail on the *Tilbury* and others on ships bound first to Madras. Due enquiries are to be made as to their treatment. Send few military stores this season, except the 600 barrels of gunpowder, as the stores taken at Pondichery will supply Madras and Calcutta. The powder casks will be hooped with copper which should be taken off and sold as merchandise. Hope that the situation in the Coast will enable the Council to re-establish the Company's mercantile concerns, providing as large an investment as possible. Nothing else can support the heavy expenses now incurred and the immense cost of the past troubles. Send list of the investment. Request that no less than 15,000 pieces of blue long cloth of a deep dye may be provided on account of the great demand for the African trade. The Council have always been backward in sending this article

although private traders can secure large quantities which have found their way to Europe markets. In consequence of the large quantities of cloth manufactured in the countries round Fort St. David, a suitable number of Company's servants should reside there or at Cuddalore, but no expense for fortifications is to be incurred. George Stratton who came home last year, having recovered his health is permitted to return to India with his rank. Appoint as writers—Edward Monckton, James Henry Casamajor, William Martin Goodlad, John Turing, James Hamilton, Walter Goddard, Edward Saunders, John Simon and Edward Middleton. Wotton Braham, who is permitted to go to Sumatra, is now appointed writer on that establishment. Yelverton Dennis, being dangerously wounded in an engagement with a French frigate, was left at Plymouth. He now sails by the *Tilbury*. He is to receive ensign's pay and succeed to the first ensigncy falling vacant on his arrival, in consideration of his gallant behaviour and misfortune. Appoint as cadets Charles Hodson, John Pomeroy, John Fortune, John Smith, James Bucknall and John Seagrave. Although negotiations have begun, the congress still has not met, and the negotiations with France have been broken off. Preparations are made to continue the war (even in case Spain should join against us) in the most effectual manner. Bute has informed the Company that the Dutch complain of insults and abuses recently committed by the English in Bengal. Have directed that no just cause for complaint is to be given and due harmony is to be preserved. The same behaviour is to be pursued on the Coast as in Bengal.

DESPATCH FROM THE SECRET COMMITTEE TO THE SELECT COMMITTEE AT MADRAS. LONDON, DECEMBER 23, 1761. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol.* 2, *pp.* 28–31 (*original*, 3½ *pp.*)]

The capture of Pondichery which has been a source of infinite distress and expense, is the more welcome as so little blood was shed in taking it. Have already acknowledged the merits and services of those concerned; but Pigot's judicious behaviour, which not only facilitated the capture of Pondichery but terminated the dispute with the King's officers regarding its possession, merits particular mention. Are gratified at the obedience to the Company's orders for its demolition. These remarks were omitted from the general letter, 'for althô the said measures are

approved of by individuals, yet the Ministry do not choose publicly to avow them.' Observe with the utmost concern the continued altercations with the King's land and sea officers. Rely on the Committee's conciliating them so far as is compatible with the maintenance of the Company's rights. In our letter to Pigot, dated June 19, 1761, which is to be laid before the Committee, our views were fully expressed regarding the disposal of booty and the unreasonable claims of the King's officers. The Company has received a letter from His Excellency the Nawab, dated February 3, 1761, congratulating us on the extirpation of the French. The Committee should make suitable acknowledgments and assure him that the Company will always be ready to continue its friendship to him and to preserve the tranquillity of his country. The best acknowledgment he can make will be the repayment of his debt as quickly as possible. Approve Dupré's action in prevailing on the Nawab to send his letters to the late King and his present Majesty, then Prince of Wales, through the Company instead of sending them by one of the King's officers as he had intended. Such a correspondence could do no harm but would expose the Nawab to be persuaded by the King's officers that he is immediately under His Majesty's protection, thereby reducing our influence. You will therefore in the most secret and prudent manner dissuade the Nawab from corresponding with any but the Company. In the present case, he has written to Pitt, Pocock, Boscawen, Adlercron, Lawrence, Clive, Draper, Forde, Saunders and Palk, without communicating his letters to us. Hope that the attempt on the French Islands has been put in execution. Have received a letter from Dalrymple reporting his transactions on the island of Sulu and of his treaty with the Sultan. As neither Committee nor Council have yet reported on this, can only urge that the best possible use be made of the treaty. If a Resident there would be advantageous to the Company one may be appointed, and in that case, Dalrymple may be the fittest person. Marchis, the person who in 1759 projected the seizure of our ships off St. Helena, sailed from Denmark early this month with 3 capital ships, it is reported to extend the Danish trade in Bengal. But the French are possibly concerned in this, as the Danes could not meet such an expense. Have therefore warned the Bengal Committee.

Appended is an extract (p. 32) from the Secret Committee's letter to Pigot of the same date, repeating their remarks on the projected settlement at Sulu.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC. LONDON, JANUARY 21, 1762. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol. 2, pp.* 34–35 (*original, 2 pp.*)]

Report declaration of war against Spain on January 4, and enclose His Majesty's declaration, dated January 2. It is to be proclaimed in Fort St. George and its dependencies. The proper measures must be taken for the protection of shipping on the voyage to China and return to Europe. The Governor will take due notice of this in his orders to the commanders. Also warn the Council that our relations with the Dutch are so critical that they may easily take unjustifiable measures to our prejudice. News of the Spanish war to be forwarded to other presidencies. His Majesty recommends an attack on Manilla. A separate letter of instructions, dated January 21, 1762, is sent by Colonel William Draper who proceeds on the *Argo* frigate to command the land forces on the expedition. The Government intended to have sent 670 soldiers this season to the East Indies, but only 38 privates could be raised for Draper's battalion embarked on the *Tilbury* with Lieutenant Andrew Gordon. Instead of the other 600, only 300 can be sent. The Government intend to send in all 800 hammocks for use on the expedition.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC. LONDON, JANUARY 21, 1762. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol. 2, pp.* 36–38 (*original, 3 pp.*)]

It being His Majesty's express will that Manilla should be immediately attacked, and that the Company shall have possession of this and all other places conquered within the limits of the Charter, he expects every assistance consistent with the safety of our trade and settlements. Consequently the following orders are sent:—

(1) It is supposed that at least 2,000 men, with a train of artillery, will be necessary. If Madras cannot spare so many, the numbers must be completed from Bengal and Bombay. (2) But this must be done in such a way that our settlements shall not be endangered or our trade impeded. You must be attentive to return home all our ships. Understand that the Admiralty will order the troops if possible to be embarked on His Majesty's ships; and if a vessel should be wanted for hospital or other purposes, they must endeavour to procure one or two of our freight ships if they can be so used. (3) The expedition is under the conduct of

Steevens and Cornish, Pigot, Lawrence, Draper or their successors, and them only. Draper is appointed Chief Commander. He is to deliver over the island of Manilla with all forts, stores, etc. The Council therefore will appoint a provisional Governor and Council with as many civil servants as may be necessary. (4) In regard to plunder, His Majesty permits this to be settled between the Company and His Majesty's Commanders-in-chief. Draper has agreed that the captors shall receive one-half, and the Company the other half. Hope similar terms may be settled with the commander of the squadron. (5) Whatever demands may be made for stores, ammunition, etc., are to be complied with as far as possible, keeping accounts and vouchers. (6) All the charges must be kept under a distinct head. (7) Instructions for the provisional government are left to the Council's discretion. Revenue, trade and economy to be commended to their attention and particular care taken for the good treatment of the natives.

Appended are: (1) printed copy of the declaration of war against Spain, dated January 2, 1762 (p. 39); and (2) printed issues of the London Gazette (pp. 40–43).

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC. LONDON, JANUARY 27, 1762. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 65, *pp.* 17–45 (*original,* 29 *pp.*)]

Cite despatches of September 30 and December 23, 1761. Now reply to the Madras Despatches of last year.

Three pipes of Madeira are laden specially for the use of Admiral Steevens. The Company hopes that the greatest care has been taken to avoid the heavy expense of demurrage, and that ships' destinations have not been altered especially in the case of China ships. The Pitt's Passage is to be recommended to all our ships' commanders who are so unfortunate as to sail late from Madras for Canton. The necessary charts have been delivered to the various commanders.

Due notice shall be taken of the complaints laid against Moore, 5th mate of the *Princess Augusta* and Captain Chick of the *Lord Anson* for ill-treating the King's troops proceeding to India. It is hoped that necessary steps have been taken to bring away from Malacca the cargoes and servants intended for Sumatra. Council is entirely mistaken in supposing the King's officers returning to Europe must be accommodated with passages at the Company's expense. The directions already given in the Despatch of

December 31, 1760, are to be punctually observed. Should any commanders oblige passengers civil or military, to pay exorbitant sums, such misconduct shall be properly resented.

Recommend that the Company's mercantile exports may be disposed of at public sales in the best manner possible. As treasure is sent out only for Sumatra, proper steps must be taken to provide treasure both for the Company's investment and the China trade. The complaint that stationery supplied last year is too bad for use, is too general and vague. Samples should have been sent. Great care is taken in examining stationery when it is packed; and the damage must have been received either on the voyage or by being stowed in a damp warehouse after arrival. In consequence of the remarks in the Madras Despatch of October 27, 1760, most exact assays have been made of Pillar and Mexico dollars and Rupees and Pagodas. The Company is greatly dissatisfied with the management of the mint. It must be due either to inattention or some other cause. An enquiry into the Assaymaster's conduct is necessary, and more care is to be taken in future. Goods consigned for Bengal by the Coast and China ships must be forwarded by the first opportunity.

It is hoped that an extension of the investment will have been effected this season on the Coast. The Company hopes that efforts to provide cloth without advances will permit the permanent abolition of that custom; and is satisfied with the supplies brought in by Basavappa Chetti and Arunagiri Chetti, without advances. The advantage and the necessity for abolishing this custom is evident from the old merchants not having cleared off their former balances. The Company highly approve the efforts made to enforce maintenance of the correct measures in cloth provided both for the Company and private merchants. This last is more difficult to enforce but very necessary as it prevents the merchants from finding a market for rejected goods. The gunnies used in packing Vizagapatam and Madapollam bales, received with the *Shaftesbury*, were very bad. Good and sound gunnies must be used in future. Recommend that screws of a particular construction (introduced by Lamb at Bombay) should be used for packing the bales at Madras.

War was declared against Spain January, 4. Enclose His Majesty's declaration, dated January 2, which is to be solemnly proclaimed in Madras and all its dependencies. Council should be on their guard and take proper measures for the security of the Company's ships. Homeward-bound ships are to be cautioned to

be well on their guard and not to put into Spanish ports. Report the capture of *La Boulogne*, a French ship from the Isle of France laden with coffee, pepper, etc. The Count d'Estaing was a passenger by her, and was brought into Plymouth. A statement of his breaking his parole by destroying the English settlements at Gombroon and Sumatra has been made out and sent to His Majesty. In future, officers of consequence should be sent to England by the first shipping instead of being trusted on paroles. The King of Burma could not have allowed the massacre of the English at the Negrais without some provocation. The enquiries made by the Madras Council show that this conjecture has some foundation, but the Company will await the further report promised, for which and the release of the captives, the *Victoria* snow was sent [to Burma]. The Company also hopes that the affair of the large ruby intended as a present to the English King but retained by Captain Newton, will also be cleared up. It appears from Newton's examination that he was in possession of a large ruby, although he alleges he bought it at the Negrais. As there was room for suspicion, Newton should not have been allowed to come home until the enquiry had been finished. Another reason alleged for the Burma attack is that people on some English country ships including Whitehill, supported the Peguers and behaved in a hostile manner. This should also be cleared up, 'for we will never with impunity suffer our affairs to be embroiled by the indiscretions and bad conduct of private persons residing in India under our protection.' Expect to be informed that Whitehill has reimbursed 2,760 pagodas, advanced to him by a Dutch Captain for his release, which sum the Council paid to the Captain out of the Company's cash.

When the Madras fortifications projected by Call have been finished, no other considerable works will be necessary on the Coast, as one capital settlement with a respectable military force will answer all the purposes of defence and preserve a proper influence over the country powers. Perhaps a second place of strength may really be needed somewhere to the northward about Vizagapatam, where the Company's interests cannot as well be supported from Madras. But nothing of this kind is to be undertaken without the Company's express permission. The increase in the Madras revenues will be of little use without large reductions in the expenditure, such as the present situation will permit. The Madras fortifications will now be the only object of extraordinary

expense and the Company is convinced of Call's assiduity and integrity in conducting that branch of its affairs. As the Company has been in a manner exhausted to support the immense expenses which the troubles on the Coast have occasioned, it now expects an ample return. Every prudent measure must be used for the collection of the Nawab's great debt and of the various revenues so as not only to cover the expenditure of Madras but also to contribute to the China trade. It is natural that the Nawab should have desired the management of the captured districts which had been let in the Company's name. But it is doubted whether the Company's security has not been weakened by the agreement to restore the districts to him. However as the agreement seems to have been made after serious consideration, it is expected that the stipulated payment of 28 lakhs of rupees a year and 3 lakhs for the Trichinopoly garrison has been regularly received. If the payment can be increased so much the better; but if the agreement should not answer the intended purposes, prudential measures should be taken to secure repayment of the money. The Company's other revenues must be managed in the most advantageous manner. The account of the Masulipatam revenues was thrown overboard when the *Ajax* was taken by the French. However Andrews estimates them at 4 lakhs of rupees a year, and the Company hopes that they may produce much more, as that sum is very short of what the French made in the country. Reasonable allowance must be made to renters for unavoidable misfortunes caused by incursions and depredations; but otherwise the utmost care must be taken to recover the full revenues. It is hoped that with the assistance of the Nawab the sums due by the late renters of Tirupasur and Poonamallee will be recovered. Observe that Mackay again succeeded in getting the contract for dieting the army in the field and procuring draft and carriage bullocks ; but it is believed that better terms might be got if there were more competitors. It is for this reason that the Company permitted covenanted servants to engage in such contracts. (Despatch March 13, 1761.) Edward Edwards, already considered unfit to be promoted to Council, is to be dismissed the service and sent home, if he persists in refusing to instruct any of the Compay's servants in the art of assaying. Repeat the orders for an enquiry into his conduct in the mint. The grant of 50 Pagodas to several writers for special industry is a usurpation of the Company's privileges. Such rewards may be given only in

extraordinary cases indeed. Approve the prompt arrest of Lewis da Costa, one of Brohier's clerks, and his despatch to Bengal.[1] Mr. Dalrymple's sending an account of his proceedings to Pitt, late Secretary of State, might be of great prejudice, but is regarded as a mere inadvertence. Many other persons have written to His Majesty's Ministers in consequence of which much embarrassment has been caused in the Company's affairs particularly in regard to the Dutch troubles in Bengal. All possible means to stop this practice are to be used. Those who persist shall be dismissed, whatever their rank. The Court of Directors is the only channel through which the Government receive information concerning the Company's affairs. Regarding Captain William Ingram sent out as Captain for Bengal but fixed upon the Madras establishment, military officers are to proceed to the places to which they are appointed. Such deviations are not to be permitted without good reason. The same applies to volunteers. Highly approve of the attempts to put the cavalry on a more regular and cheaper establishment. Particularly approve Bourchier's offer to supply all the necessary articles [at cost] until advantageous terms can be secured. Although 2 Majors were required when Lawrence was in England and Caillaud was in Bengal, yet when either Major Joseph Smith or Achilles Preston retires or dies, the establishment is to be reduced to one major only. Although no regular allowances can be made to invalid soldiers sent home, yet some relief is sometimes given, when they bring certificates showing that they merit it. Desire duplicate certificates of the 3 invalids who lost theirs when the *Ajax* was taken. In future, lists of invalids sent home showing the reason for invaliding are to be sent in duplicate. The same is to be done with all military persons permitted to return to England. In consideration of the services of Captain Beaver and the great distress in which his family is left, John Thomas Beaver has been appointed to succeed to the first vacant ensigncy after his arrival and after Yelverton Dennis has been provided for; meanwhile he will receive ensign's pay from the date of arrival, but none for the period of his absence, as furlough of this kind can never be allowed by us. Hospital accounts for His Majesty's troops must be duly authenticated. Although difficulties have arisen in obtaining certificates for advances made to His Majesty's troops

[1] Brohier, being accused of defalcations in the conduct of the works at Calcutta, had fled to Ceylon.

at the rate of exchange ordered in March 1754, the Company has not yet been informed what regulations should be introduced. Highly approve the appointment of a Committee to examine civil and military accounts. Enclose the Auditor's remarks on the Madras Accounts. Seven hundred and ten Pagodas due from the late William Perceval as Export Warehouse-keeper are to be recovered. It is considered that such debts should immediately be recovered out of any assets left by a deceased Company's servant. Although it was highly necessary to send away the French prisoners as rapidly as possible, yet the allowances made for their maintenance on board are very heavy. No more than £ 30 for each commissioned officer should be allowed if they are in a condition to pay anything themselves, and for the rest the most reasonable terms possible should be obtained. Any foreigners in the French service should, if possible, be enlisted, but officers should not be allowed to carry with them more servants and baggage than may be necessary.

Sumatra affairs.

Regarding the dispute about the Mayor's Court-house, it was certainly intended that the Company should provide Court-houses, and defray the expense of holding Courts in the Indian settlements; but it was never intended that the Mayor's Court should be a Corporation capable of holding real estate. The special clause to that effect having been omitted in the Mayor's Court Charter, the claim of the present Court to succeed to the effects said to belong to the late Court is considered totally unfounded. Even if all the powers of the late Court were not destroyed by the capture of Madras by the French, they certainly were by the surrender of the Charter to the Crown, nor is there any mention in the new Charter that the new Court shall succeed to the effects of the old one. Consequently the 606 Pagodas in the Company's cash stated by Morse to be the produce of the maces, palankin, 'Tossels,' etc., saved when Madras was captured, as also the 2,000 pagodas lent to Smith on mortgage and the legacy left by Jennings to the old Court, vest in the Company. So must also the money received as godown rents. It appears then that all the money applied to purchase the present Town hall, belonged to the Company and not to the present Court. As this Court seems to have been forming a plan to make itself independent of the Company, it is to be informed that the Company insists that it shall formally declare the Town hall to belong to the Company, in return for

which it shall be indemnified against the demands of the suitors of the old Court, as far as the amount of cash received by the Company on that account and also the 2,000 pagodas with interest thereon; also the Company will repair and maintain the Court-house and defray the cost of the Mayor's Court. The procedure to be followed regarding these expenses is that bills are to be signed by 3 or 4 of the aldermen and countersigned to such an extent as appears reasonable by the Council, proper receipts and vouchers being obtained. No rent is to be allowed for the Town hall. If the Mayor's Court refuse compliance, the Company will take steps to compel them to it. It is also desired that the Court's references to the Company should be briefer and not filled with insignificant matters. It is not considered that any reasons have been adduced for altering the provisions of the Charter in cases in which both parties to a suit are Indians, nor does the Company see any reason for permitting the Court to correspond direct with the Company. The Register of the Court, however, may be permitted to peruse paragraphs in the Despatches relating to the Court. Due notice should be taken as to the time at which the accounts of the suitor's cash will be closed for settlement, so that people may not be kept under arrest merely for want of an opportunity of paying money into the Court. The case of 'Touchma Gruah' *vs.* Ravanappa should be treated as if no suit had been begun in the former Court, for the present Court has no jurisdiction unless the defendant consents. No decision can be given at present about compelling the exhibition of inventories and accounts, etc., [in the Court's ecclesiastical jurisdiction.] As regards the Court of Sessions, there must be at least 12 of one mind in all verdicts of the Grand Jury When 24 are sworn, a majority of those present must be agreed. Presentments must be made to the Court by the foreman. When bills of indictments are found or rejected, the verdict is signified by the words 'a true bill,' 'not a true bill,' or 'not found,' being written on the back of the bill without name; but the bill must be delivered to the Court by the foreman of the Grand Jury in the presence of such members of the Jury as choose to attend. Frequent complaints are made that copies of wills are transmitted to England merely signed by the Register without mention of their having been proved. Many of these wills are attested by one witness only. These cannot operate unless the deceased's handwriting be proved. This should be done by an affidavit transmitted with the will. A case of this kind has lately arisen in the will of

William Grierson, the executors of which desired to take probate in the Prerogative Court at Canterbury.

Regarding the expense of the military forces, complain of the frequent demands for additional allowances; for instance, Council's making an additional allowance to the King's lieutenant-fire-workers, to the King's volunteers (five pagodas a month), to Captain Hislop (15s. a day batta); and sending King's officers home at the Company's expense, etc. All innovations must be prevented. No reflexion on Hislop's character is intended by reference to his batta. Approve the refusal of subsistence of the King's troops sent out by His Majesty's ships *Medway* and *South Sea Castle*. The King's officers have no right whatever to meddle with the Company's officers. It is hoped that their objections to the promotion of Smith and Preston as majors have been completely overruled. It is hoped that, when peace is made, the marines and a number of soldiers will be permitted to remain in India. Although the Ministry intended to send 670 men to the East Indies this season, only 38 recruits could be raised for Draper's battalion, sent with Lieutenant Andrew Gordon on the *Tilbury*; and only 300 more can be sent. Hammocks, muskets, provisions, etc., having already been shipped for the expected number, should be disposed of as part of the Company's effects. Clothing for the Royal troops will be sent out by the *Houghton* and the *Grosvenor*. Commanders of Company's ships which were to have carried out troops may dispose of the provisions which have been put aboard for the benefit of their owners. Direct that Coote should not be charged interest for advances made to him for the pay of his battalion in return for bills on Bengal whither his funds had been sent.

Supplement: Since writing the foregoing, measures have been concerted with the Ministry as detailed in the despatch of January 21. Yelverton Dennis has received an advance of £20 to be stopped out of his pay.

Appended are: (1) report on the assay of dollars, rupees, etc., and the Council's remarks (pp. 67-68); and (2) copy of declaration of war with Spain, dated January 2, 1762 (p. 75).

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC. LONDON, FEBRUARY 10, 1762. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 65, *pp.* 46-47 (*original*, 2 *pp.*).]

The *Tilbury*, *Essex* and *Clinton* sailed February 5, from Spithead. Are now despatching the *Houghton* and *Grosvenor* which will take

in respectivelv 126 and 127 pipes of Madeira, of which 143 are consigned to Bengal. The vessels are to be 'unlivered' with all diligence and despatched to Canton with cargoes of treasure and goods amounting to £ 30,000 on each or at least £ 25,000. The hammocks sent on the *Tilbury*, etc., are to be delivered to Colonel Draper.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC. LONDON, FEBRUARY 19, 1762. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 65, *pp.* 48—52 (*original*, 5 *pp.*). *A duplicate occurs in Military Despatches from England, Vol.* 2, *pp.* 44—49.]

Cite despatch of February 10. Are now despatching the *Walpole* and *Hardwicke*. The detachment of Royal troops for the East Indies will embark on the *Walpole*, *Hardwicke*, *Drake* and *Earl of Ashburnham*. It consists of two captains, four lieutenants, two ensigns, and about 300 men, including eight sergeants, to be divided among the several battalions agreeable to orders which will be sent by the Secretary at War. Various accidents have prevented these four vessels from being despatched together. The embarkation will be conducted by Colonel Staats Long Morris, who afterwards will sail on the *Prince of Wales* for Bombay, to take the command of his battalion there. On his arrival in India, he will be paid £ 400 a year for house-rent, and table money. Some additional cadets have been permitted to sail for India. Regular lists will be sent in the packets showing the order in which they are to be ranked. The vessels formerly intended for Canton *via* Sumatra, having been delayed by accidents, must proceed to Canton direct. When it is known that the Sumatra settlements have been re-established, troops and stores shall be sent thither. Draper's orders from His Majesty for the Manilla expedition have been delivered to him and he is preparing to sail on the *Argo* frigate from Plymouth. Lawrence is to be informed that Draper has been appointed to the command as it was thought that Lawrence's services would be more valuable in India. This will be signified to him by a special letter from Lord Egremont. Henry Harling, sometime ago ordered home for misconduct, made his escape at Bombay from the vessel on which he was embarked. If he should return to Madras, he is to be sent home at once. Discussions with the Dutch about the Bengal business have been hampered by a neglect to send home authenticated documents. The Madras Council is to furnish a full account with vouchers of all transactions with the Dutch, and is to do the same on every

future occasion when any controversy is likely to arise between the Company and any other European power. When original documents may be required for use at Madras, copies may be sent authenticated in the most solemn way, together with any depositions on oath that can be procured from living witnesses.

Appended is a list of cadets (p. 74): Charles Hodson, John Pomeroy, John Fortune, John Smith, James Bucknall, John Seagrave, John Cotgrave, Thomas Capps and Sydenham Dixon.

LETTER FROM ROBERT JAMES, SECRETARY TO THE PRESIDENT AND COUNCIL AT MADRAS OR BENGAL. LONDON, MARCH 17, 1762. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol.* 2, *p.* 50 (*original*, 1 *page*).]

About £ 10,000 in foreign gold will be sent out by the *Drake* on account of Draper's regiment to be delivered freight free at Madras or Calcutta.

LETTER FROM GEORGE HUISH, COMPANY'S AGENT, TO THE PRESIDENT AND COUNCIL AT MADRAS OR BENGAL. PORTSMOUTH, MARCH 20, 1762. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol.* 2, *p.* 51 (*original*, 1 *page*).]

Reports the embarkation of 2 detachments of His Majesty's troops for the East Indies.

Appended is a list (p. 52) showing on the *Hardwicke*, Lieutenant Richard Pate, Ensign Nathaniel Haydon, and 74 others: and on the *Drake* Lieutenant William Williams and 77 others.

LETTER FROM GEORGE HUISH, COMPANY'S AGENT TO THE PRESIDENT AND COUNCIL AT MADRAS OR BENGAL. PORTSMOUTH, MARCH 23, 1762. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol.* 2, *p.* 53 (*original*, 1 *page*).]

Reports the embarkation of Captain George Brown, commanding the detachment on the *Drake*.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC. LONDON, APRIL 2, 1762. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 65, *pp.* 53—60 (*original*, 8 *pp.*).]

Cite despatch of February 19, 1762. Are despatching the *Houghton*, *Grosvenor* and *Walpole* which sailed from Spithead on March 5, under convoy of a squadron under Sir George Pocock, on a secret expedition, it was thought to the West Indies. The

Houghton was obliged to return, having run foul of a large transport, the *Laurel*, which sank at sea. The *Hardwicke* and *Drake* with 3 China and 2 Bombay ships sailed March 25. The *Valentine* has been taken up to carry stores and some recruits to Sumatra. The persons conducting His Majesty's recruits are 2 captains, 4 lieutenants, 2 ensigns, 7 sergeants and 1 drummer. They are to be provided with passages home on the first returning ship, for which they shall be paid £30 each commissioned officer and £10 the others. This should not be taken as a precedent for providing other returning officers with passages. The Admiralty desires that the rate of exchange charged in bills drawn for stores, provisions, etc., by their agents in India should be certified by the Governor and two of the Council. This should be according to former orders at the rate of 6s. 6d. *per* weighty dollar when money is advanced by the Company. When it is borrowed of private persons, the average rate at which money can be taken up should be specified. The *Argo* frigate, 28 guns, Captain King, sailed with Draper February 23. Three French Company's ships are reported to have sailed for the Isle of France on February 2. The *Count de Villeveaux*, bound from Mauritius for Port L'Orient with 4,000 bales of coffee, has been made prize. On February 11, the *Boutin*, a French East Indiaman of 20 guns, laden with coffee and pepper from Mauritius, was also captured. The *Houghton* will probably be too late to touch at Madras, in which case she will be despatched from Bengal to Canton, and her Madras cargo will be forwarded from Bengal. Repeat former remarks on the importance of supporting the China trade. An exchange of the Company's officers made prisoners by the French at Fort Marlborough, has been arranged. The 2 hostages believed to have been carried to the French Isles will be ordered to be released. Arrangements are being made for the exchange of prisoners taken at the other settlements. The *Grosvenor* will be armed with 12 additional four-pounders on the upper deck on condition that these guns and their shot should be brought back to Europe. The disputes between the Dutch having been referred to the Commissaries who are to meet at London, the English are to endeavour to cultivate a good understanding with the Dutch in India. News just arrived of the capture of anotherFrench Indiaman, the *St. Esprit*, bound from Bourbon with coffee, pepper and ebony. The prisoners report that 3 French men-of-war were at the Isles on November 24.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC. LONDON, APRIL 8, 1762. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 65, *p.* 61 (*original*, 1 *page*).]

The election of Directors having been held yesterday, the Secret Committee consists of Thomas Rous (Chairman), John Dorrien (Deputy Chairman), Charles Gough, and Timothy Tullie.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC. LONDON, APRIL 21, 1762. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 65, *pp.* 62—66 (*original*, 5 *pp.*).]

Are now despatching the *Earl of Ashburnham.* Report the arrival of ships *Falmouth* and *Prince Edward* from Madras with despatch of October 2, 1761. Much regret that the lack of cash has stopped the Madras investment and curtailed the supplies sent to China; but the Company is sensible that this has been caused by heavy expenses and believes that the Council has acted with the best intentions. The last despatches have brought the welcome news of reduced expenditure by the removal of French prisoners, and the expectation of the Nawab's debt being paid off in 2 years. 'This will provide such a flow of cash as will enable the Council to improve our state in every branch.' The other presidencies are to receive the necessary assistance and the China trade be plentifully supplied. Bengal settlements are in a state of tranquillity. Are pleased to observe the resettlement of Fort Marlborough. The Company was as ignorant as was the Council of the secret expedition which prevented His Majesty's Squadron from making an attempt upon Mauritius. Observe with great pleasure the reduction of Tyagar and Gingee, the last places in the French possession and the demolition of Pondichery and the other French strongholds. The Council will now be able to pursue the recovery of the Nawab's debt, with proper compensation in lieu of interest in the form of conveniently situated districts or some other method. The Company relies on the Council's discretion in this matter, especially as Pigot intends to remain in Madras until he can bring the news of a substantial reduction in the Nawab's debt. Much approve the removal of the principal French prisoners to Europe, so that there should be no one on the spot capable of re-establishing their affairs. As the allowances made to the King's troops are already considerable, the Company cannot consent to the application made by Colonel Monson for a further allowance to the subaltern officers and privates. The Company agrees that Call is right in considering that no further expenditure will be necessary on temporary

works, now that the French have been completely expelled. It is clear that the masonry works still to be constructed round Fort St. George will amount to a large sum. No more is to be expended than is essentially necessary. Some bills of exchange drawn on the Company have been tendered for acceptance, before any advice has been received. Notwithstanding any former powers, the Select Committee in future is only to prepare plans to be laid before the Council. Nothing is to be concealed from the latter, but what would injure the Company if immediately known. These matters alone should be communicated to the Secret Committee.

DESPATCH FROM GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, NOVEMBER 9, 1762. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 23, *pp.* 194—230 (*copy*, 37 *pp.*).]

Cite despatch of April 17, 1762. Acknowledge the receipt of despatches of September 7, December 23, 1761; January 27, February 10 and 19, 1762.

Shipping news. Arrival of His Majesty's ship *Argo* on June 27 with General Draper on board. The *Essex* and *Clinton* arrived July 11. Captain Partington of the *Grosvenor* died soon after his arrival. David Saunders succeeds to the command of the ship. Were unable to despatch the *Fox* to China as intended, as after her return from Batavia, her unlading was delayed by the necessity of despatching the Manilla expedition. Have therefore decided to despatch her home with bales. The *London* packet has been put under Alexander Dalrymple for the Sulu voyage. He sailed on June 5. He will sail to China and back touching at Sulu both ways. The remainder of the Sulu cargo has been conveyed thither by the *Royal Captain* which touched here on her way from Bombay to China. In consequence of the Bengal Council's expecting to be able to lade six ships home this season, two vessels will be sent to this side of India from Bombay. But it is now believed that Bengal can only fill five ships even with the help of our January bales, amounting to about 200 tons. Thus three ships will remain unemployed. It is not yet decided what to do with them.

Until now, as a stock was expected by the *Walpole*, sale of woollen goods by sealed tender instead of outcry was deferred, but as the monsoon has now set in, the matter will be delayed no longer. Some of this year's importation has been sold at a really good price. At the end of May, a part of the copper on

hand was put up at outcry, but as much of what had been previously sold was still in the market, it yielded only 74 pagodas instead of 84 pagodas; and even now, a good deal of that remains unsold. We have on hand 730 candies, and as 260 are being sent by the *Houghton*, the Bengal Council have been asked whether they can dispose of 500 candies there. Of the second 5 lakhs of rupees expected from Bengal, only four have arrived. One lakh was laded on the *Prince Edward*, a country ship which sailed from Bengal in April but has not since been heard of. Have succeeded in carrying out the Company's orders for the supply of treasure for China. Have sent thither treasure amounting to 4,61,062 pagodas.

Forward copy of instructions given to Alexander Dalrymple for his Sulu-China voyage. Have forwarded to Canton goods which Pigot received from Sulu for that market on the last voyage. As soon as the state of treasure permitted, the Bombay Council was informed that they might draw bills up to 5 lakhs of rupees on Madras. The difficulty of procuring silver to send to China compelled the Madras Council to desire the Bombay Council to fix in their bills the rate of exchange into pagodas so that they might be paid in that specie. The Anjengo factory has drawn for 25,000 rupees. Should the present state of peace be continued, it is hoped that the Madras revenues will provide not only our expenses and investment, but also as much as was sent this year to China. Gold could only be sent at a loss; and silver is growing so scarce that it is feared that the necessary quantity cannot be collected. It is hoped, however, that the expedition to Manilla will permit the despatch of a considerable quantity of silver thence on the Company's account. The provisional Deputy Governor, etc., have been directed to send as much treasure as they can to China.

In cases where unforeseen circumstances prevent the Company's orders from having the effect intended by the Company, an intelligent deviation from those orders will no doubt be agreeable. In spite of the express orders to detain none of the Madeira wine consigned to Bengal, yet 57 pipes had to be put on the Manilla expedition and 5 sent to the West Coast. This would have given to Bengal 215 and Madras only 153 pipes. In case of the non-arrival of the *Houghton*, Bengal would have had 160 and we only 82; consequently the 62 pipes were taken from the Madras and Bengal consignments. As to the quality of the wine, it is not the

best but pretty good; it appears to be new, although the Company has been charged for storage, etc., for three years. The invoice price appears to be about 78½ pagodas. The sale price has been fixed at 100 pagodas a pipe.

Have written off the 5 cases of copper lost by the upsetting of a masula boat; and this could not be recovered, although divers were employed at once. The deficiency in the quantity of iron sent by the *Hardwicke* will be noted on the bill of lading. Desire that gunpowder may be packed in 60 instead of 100 lb. barrels. Two barrels would then make a suitable bullock load and one could be carried by a cooly. Enclose account sales of the *Royal George's* China cargoes. 'The confined trade on this Coast gives but little encouragement to voyages as our market can seldom take off a cargo of any kind except grain.' As it is feared that the Coast investment might be a 100 or 150 tons short of their cargoe for the October ship, Bengal was asked for that quantity of bale goods; but they replied, that in consequence of the demands for saltpetre for Madras and Bombay, they themselves would not have a full lading for five ships. However they send down 100 tons of saltpetre extra. Unfortunately the quantity turned out very deficient as much water was shipped in a severe gale of wind.

Some time before the last despatch of April 17, public notice was given inviting merchants to make proposals for the investment without advances, but not one was received. After each member of the Board had made private enquiries, all agreed that they could neither get any considerable quantity of cloth that way nor effect the least improvement in the fabric, for merchants who do not receive advances will presumably make advances to the weavers, smaller by the amount of interest than when they have advances from the Company. The rate of interest here among Europeans is 8 % and among Indians 9 to 12 %, and it is much higher inland. The Company thus gets better cloth by making advances, but has at the same time to run the risk of merchants' solvency. The best method of reducing this danger is to make such advances only to persons of approved credit. A new notice has therefore been issued inviting proposals on the following terms—that the muster price and quantity having been agreed on, one-quarter of the merchant's contract shall be advanced to enable him to set weavers to work, that as goods are brought in, they shall be immediately sorted and paid for, and that the first advance shall remain till the last parcel of the

contract is delivered when the accounts shall be closed and any balance due from the merchant shall be paid in money before he enters into a new contract. The Council have entered into engagements with a number of merchants on these terms. (Consultations of May 10, 24, and 28 and June 7). The Company will judge by the goods now sent of the improvement in the quality. It is better than of late years, but not as good as it can be brought to. This year's investment fell so short in quantity, that 152 bales of turned-out cloth and private merchants' cloth have been taken at an abatement—it is all of full measurements and quite as good as previous year's investment. Send as samples 4 corge of succatoons, 7 corge and 15 pieces of salampores middling blue, 5 bales of chintz sannoes ordinary and baftas, and 1 of lampasses well-painted. The greatest attention has been paid to excluding torn or damaged cloth. The Cuddalore investment has been put on the same footing as at Madras. Turner has managed it with only one assistant, and has succeeded as well as could be expected. It is hoped that the larger quantity of blue cloth ordered by the *Tilbury* may be ready for the January ship. Chay goods such as sastracundies, allejars and romals, are being provided at Masulipatam. It has not been possible to make equal progress in re-establishing the investment in the Northern province. Besides the difficulties about the advances, there has been new difficulty about quality and prices. The merchants in the Circars are undoubtedly less capable of providing advances from their own stock than the Madras merchants, but their proposals for qualities and prices were at first unreasonable. The Bandarmalanka merchants have at last offered terms that can be accepted; but at Vizagapatam where difficulties were least expected, nothing has been settled. Perhaps proper pains have not been taken there about the business. Formerly the Company had a factory at the seaport of Ganjam where good and cheap salampores were provided; but the Resident had to be withdrawn owing to the oppressions of the country government. It is proposed to rent the whole province of Chicacole, with the exception of Ganjam, to Vijayaramrazu, and Sitaramrazu, Rajas of Vizianagram. When this matter has been settled, it is intended to send a servant to Ganjam to re-open the investment.

Rudolph Marriot proceeded October 1761 to Batavia to act as Resident there in the place of Herbert. He carried a letter to the General and Council in which their occupation of Tapanuli and Natal and the seizure of vessels with English passes were criticised and restitution demanded. The Dutch have returned a smart but

polite answer and have refused to allow Marriot to stay there. Here the matter must rest for a paper war can be of little use.

Refer to Call's report on the state of fortifications.

Many of the sealed tenders for renting the Masulipatam farms for one year were made by persons of desperate fortune or bad character; and it was decided to give the farms to the previous renters. But the Masulipatam farms which fell vacant last month were given to the highest bidders who were men of substance and credit. These rents now amount to 1,10,875 pagodas; besides these is the arrack farm of 5,000 rupees a year which expires February 22, 1763. It is believed that this is of doubtful value. It is thought that the Company has been misinformed of the value of the farms. The French rents included the farms of the Guntur country (otherwise called Condavir or Murtazanagar) the value of which is 8 lakhs of rupees, while the total French revenues included also the Circars of Mustaphanagar, Rajahmundry and Chicacole. All these are now under the Company's management, but the profits from them are doubtful. As it was represented that the customs levied by the French at Masulipatam were in several respects irregular, it was ordered that 3% should be levied on all goods imported. Basavappa Chetti, who has been frequently commended for his conduct in the investment, has proved at last to be nothing but an adventurer willing to risk all without regard to consequences. He and another bid against each other for the Karikal farm up to 27,100 pagodas at which it was cried down to Basavappa Chetti. As it was well-known that the district never did yield that value, the Council enquired his reasons for bidding so high. He replied that large balances were due to him from the inhabitants which he would not be able to recover if the farms passed into other hands. At the same time, he took the Devikottai farm for 8,000 pagodas a year for 5 years. Some time after, his payments became unpunctual and he contracted large debts in Madras. At last when it was clear that the Company's indulgence could no longer support his credit, the farms were taken from him. He had paid for Karikal only 9,500 pagodas and for Devikottai 5,800 pagodas, so that he was indebted on the first 17,600 and on the second 2,200. This debt is considered desperate. The Company's loss is not so great as it appears, as the Karikal country is not worth what it was let for. These 2 farms were again put up at outcry, and Karikal was cried down to Palk for 21,000 pagodas a year and Devikottai to Raja Pandit at 7,800 pagodas a year for 5 years.

Have appointed the following covenanted servants to accompany the Manilla expedition, in order to assume the provisional Government in the event of success:—Dawsonne Drake, Deputy Governor; John Lewin Smith, Henry Brooke, Claud Russell, and Samuel Johnson, Councillors; Henry Parsons, John Nodes, Francis Jourdan, Richard Fyfe, Quintin Crawford, and William Martin Goodlad, Assistants; and Nathaniel Barlow and Hector Mackay, monthly writers. Edward Edwards, Assaymaster, died in May. John Pybus was appointed to succeed him. Whitehill has not yet been able to pay off his debt to the Company, but the Council will secure its discharge as soon as possible. Thomas Kelsal has been appointed to assist Dalrymple. John Maxwell Stone succeeded him as Secretary in the Military department. John Hollond (writer) has been permitted to go to China for the benefit of his health. As Dalrymple received no pay during his voyage on the *Cuddalore* schooner, his bill of expenses amounting to 1,530 pagodas has been paid. The Council are convinced that he has charged no more than he really expended, and he neither applied for nor profited by the appointment. For military promotions, refer to Consultations of June 28, July 12, August 9, 17 and September 7. The grant of a brevet to Captain Ingram in 1759, mentioned in Company's letter of January 27 was not intended to transfer him to this establishment, but done at the suggestion of Coote in consequence of his readiness to remain on the scene of action, and the Bengal Council were desired not to suffer his remaining here to affect his promotion there. No alterations will be made in the destination of Company's officers without good reason.

Hitherto the supply of Company's vessels with stores, taking over their remains, and adjusting the accounts, have been done by the Storekeeper; but these really demanded a man with special knowledge. Besides the management of the masula boats and other matters concerning the port are services requiring the attention of a separate official. A suitable person has been found in Captain Baker who desired to resign the command of the *London* packet. He has been appointed Master Attendant to discharge these duties with a salary of £ 100 a year, 8 pagodas a month for diet, and 10 pagodas for house-rent.

Henry Crawford, who has served in the Secretary's office for 3 years and deserves great commendations, is going home, as the Council's former recommendation of him has escaped the Company's notice.

All debts have been paid off, except 3 long-standing loans, viz., 20,000 pagodas from the China Jesuits, 6,000 pagodas on account of the Roman Catholic Female Orphan House, and 30,000 pagodas in the names of Antonio Carvalho de Madeiros and Father Severini on account of the estate of Coja Petrus for charitable purposes, all at 6% *per annum*. The principal and interest paid off amounts to 3,30,000 pagodas. The late troubles have caused so many new charges and irregularities that there is continual cause for correction; the accounts have not yet been brought into the best possible form. Although expenses have been reduced to the utmost point of frugality, the charges are still heavy. Perhaps it would be well when peace is made to ascertain the value of your possessions, form some judgment of the value of the Company's trade on the Coast, and establish a new plan of accounts.

As it was at first intended to despatch the *Earl Temple* with French prisoners to Europe, the Captain received an advance of 1,500 pagodas to lay in provisions. The arrangement was afterwards cancelled and when the Committee of Accounts reported that the advance was still outstanding, the Storekeeper was ordered to recover it. However in July, 8 months later, it was found that no recovery had been made because Captain Foster was sick at the time and soon after died. The Storekeeper should have called on him to settle the account when the destination of the ship was altered. The matter is now referred to be settled in England. When Lally, De Leyrit etc., of the Pondichery Government came to Madras, it was thought necessary to maintain them at the Company's expense. Lally was lodged in that part of the garden house which escaped his fury during the siege. De Leyrit was subsequently lodged there. A table was maintained for them under their own direction. However 'they repaid our politeness with reproach and seemed to have intended revenge by profusion.' The whole cost of maintaining them amounted to 6,153 pagodas.

Sumatra affairs.

Have appointed Thomas Savage, Abraham Brown and James Hay to be aldermen *vice* Francis Taylor (deceased), Richard Brickenden (gone to Masulipatam) and Henry Eustace Johnson (gone to Europe). Peter Mariette has been elected Mayor in place of John Lewin Smith.

As part of Coote's Regiment remained here after he left for Bengal hospital and store accounts were drawn up and sent to Coote who certified the hospital account but refused the account of stores, alleging that his regiment had lost 27 officers, and 717 men, the

cost of raising whom at £ 5 a head far exceeded the value of stores supplied; and further that the military stores taken by him in the forts on the Coast exceeded the quantity expended in taking them. The account was again returned with the request that the Bengal Council would submit it to Coote, and inform him that all the regiments came without any contingent money, that the Colonels, including Coote, promised to certify to the supplies we made them and that his certificate will not oblige the Government to pay if they think the charge unreasonable. No answer has yet been received. Colley Lyons Lucas who arrived on the *Grosvenor* informs us he was ordered thither by Adair, with 5 mates to be Surgeon of the King's hospital in India. As he arrived after Draper's departure and no instructions have been received to establish a hospital for His Majesty's troops, the Council know not how to act.

Various accounts. The invoice by this ship amounts to 1,73,929 pagodas, and diamonds registered to 98,149 pagodas. The cash balances in the Treasury and the cash chest are about 2,85,000 Star or current pagodas.

Postscript: Certificates and bills drawn at 90 days' sight on the Company amount to 46,184 pagodas and bills at one year's sight to 1,35,000 pagodas.

Appended are: (1) lists of the packets (pp. 231-237); (2) register of diamonds (pp. 238-241); (3) list of military officers (pp. 242-243); (4) list of passengers on the *Fox*, consisting of Lieutenant John Finnan, (of King's 79th); Lieutenant Robert Bowden and Ensign Edmund Bazil (of the 96th); John Mc Queen, Henry Crawford, Mrs. Elizabeth Andrews, Mrs. Mary Lewin Smith, John Line, William Downing, 2 servants and 12 other passengers (p. 244); (5) manifest of presents permitted to be sent to England consisting of piece-goods, etc., (p. 245); and (6) letter to St. Helena, dated November 9,1762 (p. 246).

DESPATCH [FROM GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE.] NOVEMBER 9, 1762. [*This is missing in the Military Despatches to England, Vol.* 3.] The abstract, (Abstracts of Military Despatches to England, Vol. 1, pp. 53-56) is as follows:—

'The army cantoned at Chidambaram after the reduction of Arni held by Tirumal Rao, one of the Nawab's refractory tributaries. Mr. Dupré sent to Tanjore to settle matters between

the Rajah and the Nawab, Terms agreed on between the Nawab and the Rajah, and guaranteed by the Company. The Rajah to [pay] 22 lacks of Rupees in full of all arrears, 4 lacks per annum subsidy. Tirumal Rao to be restored to the management of the Arni district, paying a yearly nazar to the Nawab of 10,000 Rupees, the Nawab retaining possession only of the forts of Arni and Dobaghur. The Rajah subsequently agreed to pay 5 lacks more as presents, one of which to the Rajah's servants and 4 to the Nawab. The Nawab transfers to the Company the sums to be paid by the Rajah and after engaging to make good any deficiency in the Rajah's payments the amount 21 lacks of Rupees is carried to his credit. Mr. Pybus sent to the Coast of Candia. An account of his proceedings forwarded[1] A protest received from the Governor and Council of Columbo against any interference on Ceylon. Another protest received from Columbo against Admiral Cornish's carrying a French prize into Trincomalé. Sannads for the Circar received from Nizam Alì on condition of assisting him with troops. An offer made to take the Circars under the Company's management and pay him for the value supposed revenue of the Circars. The Company pending the Nizam's determination publish the sannads and commence on the collection. Sitaramrazu and Vijayaramrazu of Viziaynagram rent the Chicacole Circar for 5 lacks for the current year and promise to pay 5 lacks to the Nizam as arrears. The remainder of the light horse sent to Bengal. The detachment of the 84th Regiment sent to Bengal. Colonel Caillaud embarks for Bengal. Distribution of the troops on the Coast. A French squadron seen off Point de Galle. Captain Tinker proceeds in quest of them. A ship with troops on board put into Tellicherry on account of the French Squadron. The troops ordered not to come overland from Anjengo on account of the suspicions entertained of Yusuf Khan's defection. Indent for ordnance of different sizes. Want of recruits and small number of effective troops on the Coast. Upwards of 50 lacks of Rupees received during the last year from the Nawab. Several charges brought to his account which were incurred during the war against the French. A committee appointed to revise his accounts. The Nawab desires all the charges of the sieges of Madras and Pondicherry may be charged to him. Sum to be received from the Nawab this year.'

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[1] His journal was printed at the Government Press, Colombo, in 1862.

DESPATCH FROM GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, $\frac{\text{MAY } 30}{\text{JUNE } 7}$ 1763. [*Military Despatches to England, Vol.* 3, *pp.* 78-87 (*copy*, 10 *pp.*)]

Cite despatch of November 9, 1762, reporting negotiations with Nizam Ali regarding the Circars, and the despatch of a battalion of sepoys to Masulipatam at the request of Husain Ali Khan to help him in settling his affiairs there. By the ready homage paid by the Zamindars, it was first hoped that the undertaking would have succeeded. As Nizam Ali received little from the Circars and was engaged in a struggle with the Marathas, it was thought he would be glad if he could secure even half the revenues. However before he received the Madras letter on the subject, he had already entered into negotiations with the Marathas, perhaps facilitated by the report of our assistance, and informed us of his disapproving the despatch of troops to assist Husain Ali Khan, and desiring their recall and the return of the sannads he had sent. Husain Ali, he said, had no authority to make such agreement with us, and the sannads had only been sent in consideration of the promise of sending troops to his help. It was therefore resolved to return the grants, and as Husain Ali had really full powers to treat, Nizam Ali was told that the troops should be recalled as soon as the cost of the expedition had been reimbursed. This last was refused. We therefore ordered our troops to keep possession of Rajahmundry; and presently, Pybus reported that bills had been produced for the amount claimed. The troops were therefore withdrawn. On the reduction of Arni, the Nawab advanced us 3,34,000 rupees on account of the possession of districts attached. But as the treaty between the Nawab and the King of Tanjore stipulated that the killedar should be restored to his jaghir, the Nawab desired repayment of the sum which was accordingly done. For the better security of the Carnatic, it was proposed to secure possession of the fort and pass of Satghar, about 35 miles west of Vellore. The Nawab having spent some time on fruitless negotiations with the killedar, applied for the assistance of a force, the appearance of which would bring the killedar to terms. But when the Council enquired what steps the Nawab had actually taken, it was discovered that he had been seeking to persuade the killedar's officers, the killedar being very young, to betray the fort to him. The Council then desired the Nawab to offer the killedar a jaghir elsewhere and Major Campbell

was despatched with a force from Vellore and a letter from the President promising the Company's protection to the killedar. Accordingly Campbell occupied the Pettah with little or no loss and on receipt of the President's letter, the killedar immediately surrendered. Call was at once despatched thither (Military Consultations, May 9). On January 7, the *Osterley* arrived from Manilla with the news of its capture on October 6, 1762. On February 22, the *Manilla* snow brought full advices from Dawson Drake, etc. (Military Consultations, February 24). It appears that the inhabitants having agreed to pay a ransom of 4 million dollars in lieu of plunder, about an eighth part had been paid, a third of which had been delivered to Drake, etc., as the Company's share, in accordance with the resolution taken by the Admiral and General before their departure. Drake reports that having purchased a vessel to send early advices, he asked the Admiral for 6 men from the fleet to assist in navigating her. Cornish first refused, but some days after, put the vessel into commission. Drake, etc., are apparently in a very disagreeable situation. Draper seems to have contented himself with taking the Town without troubling to settle the country before he sailed for England. Consequently they are in continual alarm and are perpetually sending out parties to keep open communications with the districts supplying them with provisions. Moreover to garrison Manilla and Cavita a large number of men are needed. They have therefore applied to us for 1,500 or 2,000 sepoys. As moreover it was essential to have a naval force to keep open the communication with Cavita, Drake, etc., asked Cornish for a ship of the line and a frigate. This he refused, though at the same time he wrote to the Councils at Madras and Bombay, explaining the great necessity for a naval force. Have set about raising sepoys required and have asked for one or more armed vessels from Bombay. Major Barker, Captain Meyers, etc., of the Company's troops have complained that they have been allowed no share in the prize, *Sanctisima Trinidada*, although the rest of the army was. Brooke and Russell (Paymaster and Commissary, respectively) also complain of being excluded from a share in the prize money. In spite of his former refusal, Cornish left behind him His Majesty's ships *Falmouth* and *Seaford*, and sent the *Weymouth* and *Elizabeth* to Bombay. Have resolved to send to Manilla 200 sepoys by the *Houghton*. But the Company's letter of November 30, received from Bombay by Captain Tinker who arrived May 18 with His Majesty's ships *Medway*, *York* and

Chatham bringing news of the cessation of arms with France and Spain, induced the Council to suspend the despatch of sepoys until orders regarding Manilla should be received. A remonstrance has been received from the principal merchants of Manilla against Cornish. They have also addressed a letter to His Majesty. Have already reported that in September Captain Tinker on the *Medway* fell in with the French Squadron off Ceylon which had captured the *Walpole*. A few days later the French sailed to Mergui where they remained till December and then proceeded to Balasore roads in quest of vessels coming out of the river. However, being discovered, they took only a few small ones. The Squadron consisted of the *Vengeur* (64 guns), *Condé* (50 guns) and *Fidelle* (24 guns). The *Winchelsea* fell in with them on January 15, off the Hugli river. Captain Howe proceeded to Vizagapatam where he remained till the French ships had left. Highly approve Howe's conduct. On February 21 came news of the arrival of the *Gracieuse*, a French frigate, at Tranquebar, with part of the *Walpole's* cargo. To prevent the French prisoners from the south from giving the same troubles in Karikal as last year, a party of Hussars and sepoys was sent thither to preserve order. The frigate returned to the Islands at the end of March with several French prisoners who thus broke their parole. Suspicion of the intentions of Yusuf Khan (*vide* Despatch of November 9), seems to have been well grounded. He has thrown off his allegiance and is endeavouring to achieve independence. Every means was tried in vain to induce him to come to Madras to settle matters with the Nawab. As soon as he thought himself strong enough, he hoisted French colours and openly declared himself their friend and ally. He then plundered part of the Travancore country. Its King was obliged to make terms, but promises to assist us when our troops take the field. We hope that a diversion made by him that side with a few soldiers and artillery men from Anjengo will much assist the operations to be undertaken against Yusuf Khan. In anticipation of Yusuf Khan's refusal to come to terms, stores and ammunition were collected at Trichinopoly, and the Company's troops at Cuddalore were also sent thither. Lawrence went down by the *Osterley* to review them before departure. As the Manilla expedition renders it impossible to march without assistance from Bombay, the Council there were asked for the whole of the detachment of the 96th with some artillery, but for some time could not be induced to send more than 2 companies, which were embarked on the *Windsor*, and,

meeting a French frigate at Tellicherry, were put ashore at that place. After repeated representations however the Bombay Council at last sent the whole detachment on His Majesty's ships *Medway*, *York*, *Chatham*, and *Baleine*. They arrived at the same time as the news of the cessation of arms, and, as it was feared that this might rapidly be followed by the recall of the Commanding officer and perhaps many others also, it was resolved to await further orders before proceeding. Last September, two companies of Monson's regiment under Major Piers, coming here from Bombay, were landed at Tellicherry on receiving intelligence of the French line of battle ships, cruizing off Ceylon. They remained till the end of April. Major Piers was put to considerable expense and lost many of his effects which were thrown over-board when the *Medway* fell in with the French. He does not care to particularise the losses, but it is understood they amount to about £200. Captain Wingfield who was taken on the *Walpole* also sustained losses, for which he and Piers applied to Lawrence for relief. The Council did not consider themselves authorized to grant this but the case is recommended to the Company, as it is understood that His Majesty frequently considers losses in such cases. Caillaud who proceeded to Bengal to vindicate himself against the charges regarding the Shah Zada,[1] found it necessary to proceed to Europe for a further justification of his conduct. He has desired our opinion with regard to his behaviour. The Council felt that they could not refuse on account of their perfect knowledge of Caillaud's general character. (Consultations, March 14.)

Supplement, dated June 17: Since writing the above, have received despatches of December 9, 22 and 29 by the *Neptune* which arrived May 31. Are using every means to send away the French prisoners, 60 go by this ship, as many more on each of the China ships, and it is hoped the Admiral will take some of them. The French will probably wish to re-establish their affairs as early as possible. Unless Yusuf Khan is reduced before they arrive, he will certainly assist them in renewing the troubles. Lawrence has therefore ordered Colonel Monson to be ready to proceed with his regiment to Trichinopoly; and considers that if we should be so far engaged as to be unable to recede when Monson's recall arrives, it would justify execution of orders being deferred. It has been decided therefore to proceed with the expedition at once. Pybus

[1] That he had conspired to poison the prince.

reports having received 18,000 pagodas on account of the charges of the northward detachment, and expects to receive the balance of 5,731 pagodas in a short time.

Appended are lists of the packets (pp. 88—90).

DESPATCH FROM GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 31, 1763. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 24, *pp.* 1—27 (*copy*, 27 *pp.*)]

Cite despatch by the *Fox* of November [9]. Are now despatching the *Clinton*.

Shipping news. The *Walpole* was captured off Ceylon by the French Squadron consisting of the *Vengeur* of 64 guns, the *Condé* of 50 guns, and the *Fidelle* frigate of 18 guns, and was at once despatched to the French Isles, after removing her officers, passengers, and most of the crew. The French vessels having taken in provisions at some port to the eastward arrived at Balasore in December and took a schooner of the Company and several private vessels coming out the Hugli, with the Madras packet sent by the *Houghton* which fell into their hands. It is believed to have contained only the duplicates of those sent by the *Hardwicke* and the *Earl of Ashburnham*. The Company's ship *Boscawen* bound from Bombay to Calcutta passed the French ships in a fog. The Company's ship *Winchelsea* had a warm engagement with a frigate for 2 hours and finally reached Bengal March 7. The French ships are believed to have remained off Balasore till the middle of February, when they probably returned to the Islands. Their presence necessarily delayed the despatch of the Bengal ships. The *Clinton* arrived here March 24, with the despatches of April 2, 8 and 21, 1762. The *Houghton* arrived from Bengal April 6. Her Commander, Captain Rogers, having died, William Smith, the chief mate, was appointed in his place. The *Royal Captain* missed the island of Sulu whither she was despatched in August with a cargo consigned to Dalrymple and Kelsal. The *Elizabeth* has been destroyed by fire off Linting Bar; the captain, second mate and several of the crew perished with her. Arrival in Bengal of Ardley, late Deputy Governor of Fort Marlborough. The new voyage to Sulu under Dalrymple and Kelsal has already been reported. They returned here in March, as small-pox and other accidents prevented the success of the voyage. Refer to their report entered after Consultation April 12. It is intended to send one of the Company's ships thither with Dalrymple to take on

board the remains of the adventure which should have been laded on the *Royal Captain*. The goods intended to be landed by that ship were carried to China, but were sent thence to Manilla. The *London* has been sent to Manilla for repair whence she will be forwarded to Sulu. A draft of the *Pitt's* passage has been lodged with the President by Captain Rogers of the *Houghton*. Other shipping news.

The woollen goods remaining in the warehouse were sold by outcry in December. The quantity being small, the price rose considerably. The warehouse is now cleared of all except a small quantity reserved for military clothing, presents, etc. At the same time the copper on hand was put up for sale as the Bengal market was too fully supplied to take any off. It produced for fine copper about 75½ pagodas a candy, and coarse about 74½ pagodas. The sale of the copper received by the *Houghton* must be deferred as what was sold in December has not yet been cleared. In consequence of the difficulty of obtaining silver for China, Bengal was asked to supply as much as possible, drawing on Madras for the value in pagodas. Five lakhs of rupees have been sent for part of which bills have been drawn. We hope to be able to send a sufficient supply to complete the China investment. A letter from the Canton supracargoes of November indicates that they have enough treasure to lade all their ships even if the *Grosvenor* has arrived, but that would have left them with scarcely any surplus. It is reported from Manilla that the Company's proportion of the capitulation money actually received has been paid over partly in specie and partly in plate. It was intended to send to China the plate to the value of about 54,000 Spanish dollars. The Nawab is expected to pay in time to be forwarded to China 5 lakhs of rupees. It is believed that the consignments thither will amount to 17 lakhs of rupees. But it is impossible to continue this method of supplying the China trade. The scarcity of silver must soon be felt at Bengal as well as here,—the principal supplies [Company's consignments from Europe] being dried up, the Persian Gulf and the Red Sea affording but small sums in comparison with ours, and Manilla which used to furnish considerable supplies now requiring silver from us. The scarcity of silver and the needs of the China trade have prevented much assistance being given to the Bombay presidency, although a parcel of gold was sent thither by the *Revenge*. This is reported to have sold at considerable loss so that the Bombay Council desires that any further consignments

of gold should be made on their account to Bengal. It has been necessary to detain 200 tons of saltpetre consigned from Bengal to Bombay by a country ship. The China market is at present overstocked with redwood.

It has already been explained that the system of making advances to merchants was the only possible method for conducting the investment with success. It is hoped that the quality of goods on the *Clinton* will prove these statements. Longcloth from Bandarmalanka seems very good, and the chay goods from Masulipatam being better and cheaper than in the previous years, double the quantity mentioned in the list of investment has been ordered. But chay goods No. 3 not being as bright as the Company requires, none have been included in the present year's contract which has been undertaken on the same terms as last year's. It appears from the *Clinton's* invoice that the Masulipatam and Bandarmalanka goods are 4¼ *per cent.* more than the prices agreed upon with the merchants. This results from their books being kept in rupees which are reduced into current pagodas at 3½ rupees each and into Madras pagodas at 4 rupees each, the common exchange there. This makes 100 Madras pagodas equal to 114 current pagodas; whereas at Madras they are only reckoned at 110. It has now been ordered that from May 1, 1763, the Madras pagodas are to be reckoned at 110 current pagodas and rupees at 3½ *per* current pagoda. Any difference in the exchange is to be adjusted by batta at the end of the year. Although no allejars are ordered in the list of investment, yet as the bales from Masulipatam proved to be much superior to what was formerly sent, 800 pieces were ordered. Difficulties about the Vizagapatam investment continued till January when at last Heath brought the merchants to accept the terms accepted at Bandarmalanka. 'We must depend on Mr. Heath's most earnest assurances that the delay was entirely owing to the obstinacy of his merchants.' The middling and fine cloth received thence seems as good as that from Bandarmalanka, but the ordinary needs improvement. In spite of Turner's endeavours at Cuddalore, the country is not yet sufficiently settled to admit of so successful an investment as is hoped. This is why last year's contracts could not be fully complied with. The Madras merchants contracted in February for the current investment on the same terms as last year. The ordinary cloth brought in is much worse than muster. As the merchants declared that it could not be improved unless the price was raised by 1 pagoda a corge, it has

been promised. This brings the cost of longcloth to 43 pagodas a corge. If there is not corresponding improvement in quality, a proportionate abatement will be made in price. As the Cuddalore merchants' proposal was higher than last year's, they were summoned to Madras and with difficulty induced to accept rather cheaper terms. It has been agreed that cloth should be delivered part by August 31 and the rest by January 31 when the contract expires. Cloth worse than the muster if, of the proper size, will be taken in at a proportionate abatement of price; but really bad or short cloth will be rejected or charged with double custom of 10 *per cent.* The greatest care has been taken in the sorting of fine goods. No. 1 are very good, and though No. 2 are much inferior, they are quite as good for the price. Great quantities of fine goods, particularly beteellas, have had to be rejected. This will reduce the size of the investment; but it is hoped that strictness will lead to improvement in quality. The best of the turned-out beteellas have been finally taken in at 8 *per cent.* less than the price of No. 2. The quality of the cloth, painting and patterns of the chintz should receive the Company's approval especially at the reduced price. It would be well to send patterns annually from England. The efforts to procure painted goods at Vizagapatam and Bandarmalanka have not yet succeeded. It is hoped to provide moorees of all kinds, both for painting and washing, and longcloth superfine at Bandarmalanka; but it will take some time to establish a proper fabric. Each factory has been ordered to provide small quantities of any kind of goods thought suitable for the European market though not included in the investment. The Dutch and especially the French have always sent a large quantity of goods which have never been provided by the English. The ginghams sent are much better than formerly, but their colour still needs improvement. Contracts have been made for the supply of 40 and 50 covid beteellas. Send a few plain and flowered Vizagapatam beteellas. It has not yet been possible to procure bordered handkerchiefs of the quality of plain beteellas. The Company's opinion is also desired on the longcloth ordinary and fine marked P. provided at Porto Novo and sent by the *Fox*. The most strenuous endeavours have been made to fulfil the Company's orders.

The King of Tanjore having desired that the Devikottai tribute should be adjusted, it not having been regularly paid since [1755], it appeared that 3,590 pagodas were due; and this was paid. In future, the tribute, 1,100 pagodas, will be paid at the end of every

year. The complaints of the Canton supracargoes of the difficulties they have encountered at Macao have been represented to the Viceroy at Goa.

Call's letter to Council of December 27 and his accompanying letter to the Directors will show the progress made on the fortifications. The works of Masulipatam were much damaged by a severe storm on December 1. But no repairs are being made at present. Buildings are being erected at Bandarmalanka to receive the Company's goods.

All the Masulipatam farms have now been relet. Want of rain in the interior occasioned a bad harvest this season, and many have flocked into the Madras bounds for subsistence. In consequence of this and the small supply received from the north, the inland duties on grain have been taken off [here and at Cuddalore]. In consequence of an application in November last by D'Ita Salazar, claiming two houses in the Choultry Gate Street, the property of his grandfather Ballieu and afterwards of his father Jeronimo D'Ita, and which had been confiscated,[1] he has been permitted to sell his house to any European Protestant, according to the Company's permission of November 11, 1757.

Fairfield has resigned the Chiefship of Masulipatam and returned to Madras, and Pybus took charge of that place last December. Heath desiring to resign the Chiefship of Vizagapatam owing to ill-health, John Smith has been appointed and will proceed thither with George Stratton and Charles Smith as his Council. The investment at Cuddalore having increased the business there, John Calland, Edward Raddon and Walter Goddard have been established as a Council to assist Turner. Matthew Clarke, factor, permitted to sail by a country ship in April 1762 to Manilla for his health, died on the voyage. Claud Russell, appointed to Council at Manilla was obliged to return to the Coast owing to a severe disorder of the liver. He is now employed as assistant to the Assaymaster. Samuel Johnson of Council at Manilla has been similarly obliged to return with Russell.

The surgeons who formerly contracted to supply the patients in the hospital with country medicines, cots, clothing and all necessaries except diet, at 6 fanams a day *per* head, have been induced to accept 5 fanams instead, though they declare that this will barely defray the charge.

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[1] In 1749 when Madras was restored to the English.

Chepperumal Chetti who has been the principal shroff in the Mint since the death of Linga Chetti his father, having represented that he could no longer supply fanams at 42 to the pagoda owing to the great scarcity of silver, public notice was given for tenders for the supply of 5,000 pagodas' worth of fanams monthly when required. Offers were received from Chepperumal Chetti and Suri Chetti to provide them at 41¼ *per* pagoda. The former's offer was accepted as he was an old servant of the Company.

Captain Charles Tod has been granted a plot of waste ground near the Choultry Plain. Promotions in the military will be found in Consultations of January 8, February 1 and March 7. Captain Frederick Gurtler, having been long sick, has been permitted to resign and return to Europe. On every occasion, he has proved himself a steady and gallant officer. Captain Leonard Parrot whom the surgeons here have been unable to cure of a wound in the arm received during the siege of Madras, is also obliged to return to Europe. As he has distinguished himself by his gallantry during the time he has been in your service, he is recommended for permission to return to India to his rank if he recovers. The Reverend Mr. Moore who accompanied Ardley to Fort Marlborough returned here on the *Osterley*. He now proceeds to Europe.

The General books ending April 1762 are now sent. Reports of the Committee of Accounts will be found in Consultations, December 29, 1762, February 28, March 7 and April 12, 1763.

Peter Mariette served as Mayor after the departure of Lewin Smith to Manilla. John Debonaire was appointed Mayor last December with James Bourchier as Sheriff. Robert Dowsett and Thomas Kelsal have been appointed Aldermen, in place of John Lewin Smith and John Calland. The Court of Requests have duly reported to Council the new members chosen for the present year.

Cornish returned from Manilla, May 19, with His Majesty's ships *Norfolk, Grafton, America, Panther, Lenox, Argo* frigate, and *Trinidada* Prize. The *Elizabeth* and *Weymouth* had been sent to Bombay. The *Falmouth* and *Seaford* remain at Manilla. Captain Tinker with the *Medway, Chatham* and *York* arrived with the Company's despatch of November 30, 1762 *via* Basra, with advice of a cessation of arms. James King, His Majesty's Agent Victualler, desiring to be furnished with an office and that the rent of the house he occupied at the rate of 25 pagodas a month might be discharged, it was agreed to allow him 10 pagodas a month which

was double the allowance made to Company's servants. Lieutenants Adair of His Majesty's 79th, Rose of the 96th and the Rev. Mr. Shepherd, Chaplain of the 89th return as passengers by the *Clinton.*

Supplement: Samples of gunpowder and materials were forwarded by the *Warren.* In May 1762, a bill of exchange was presented on behalf of the Government of Negapatam by Captain Norton Hutchinson of the *Caernarvon* for 1,000 Spanish dollars. It has been discharged at the rate of 68 stivers *per* dollar and 96 stivers *per* old Negapatam pagoda with 8 *per cent* batta,[1] amounting in all to 765 star pagodas. Captain Vincent of the *Osterley* drew a similar bill for 1,000 Spanish dollars which has been discharged at the same rate. It has already been reported that the suit in the Mayor's Court between Edward Edwards and Josias Dupré was given in favour of Edwards. Dupré appealed and the decree was reversed. Edwards then appealed to the Privy Council. In May 1762, he died and Chepperumal Chetti, administrator of his estate, has signified that he desires to withdraw the suit. He will therefore be required to pay the cost of the suits here and give security for the payment of cost in England. As the Bombay Council are unable to lade home all the ships on their hands, having been disappointed in the quantity of saltpetre received from Bengal, they decided to send the *Hector* round to Madras to be employed as might seem best, and also the *Britannia* to be completed with a stock of £40,000 for China. The *Hector* arrived here May 26. Enclose correspondence regarding the reasons of the *Royal Captain* being unable to make the island of Sulu. Permission has been given to send a quantity of chintz and lampasses provided for the Manilla market, but which proved unsaleable there, on condition that the Company may take them at such price as it deems reasonable or permit their sale on the owner's account. They are carried as surplus tonnage at half freight. The Company's ship *Neptune* arrived this day. The *Clinton's* invoice amounts to 1,44,132 pagodas and the diamonds registered to 2,03,640 pagodas. The cash balance on hand in gold and silver, both in the cash sheet and treasury, is about 2,40,000 Star pagodas.

Postscript: Certificates have been granted for the estates of deceased persons for 11,039 pagodas. Bills of exchange have also been drawn for £21,641 or 54,104 pagodas.

[1] In order to convert Negapatam into Star pagodas.

Appended are: (1) lists of the packets (pp. 29—36); (2) manifests of presents consisting of small quantities of chintz, etc. (p. 36.); (3) list of passengers on the *Clinton*, including the names of Captains Frederick Gurtler, Leonard Parrot, the Reverends Mr. More and Mr. Shepherd, Lieutenants William Gaven and Richard Rose, Newman Mallack, Mrs. Bourchier, Miss Grace Demar, Thomas Townsend, and Mrs. More, Mrs. Bourchier's servants and 60 French prisoners (p. 37); (4) register of diamonds, etc. (pp. 38—45); and (5) Capt. Nathaniel's agreement to take 33 bales of Manilla goods at half freight (p. 46).

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC. LONDON, NOVEMBER 30, 1762. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 66, *pp.* 29—30 (*original,* 2 *pp.*). *Duplicate in Military Despatches from England, Vol.* 2, *pp.* 54–55.]

Now send by way of Basra news of a cessation of arms. The preliminary articles of Peace signed at Fontainbleau, November 3, by the Duke of Bedford, arrived in London on the 8th, and were publicly declared on the 26th. Enclose copies of the proclamation news of which is to be transmitted to every part of India. All captures beyond the Equator made 6 months after the ratification of the preliminaries are to be restored. Homeward bound ships despatched after May 22, will proceed as before the War direct to London. The Commanders of ships despatched before that date must be particularly on their guard until May 22. Enclose list of ships arrived and taken up. Expect that the presidencies of Madras and Fort William will provide treasure and goods to the value of £30,000 for each of the 3 Coast and China ships.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC. LONDON, DECEMBER 9, 1762. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol.* 2, *pp.* 57—62 (*original,* 6 *pp.*). *Duplicate at pp.* 63—67.]

Cite despatch of November 30. Enclose the preliminary articles. The 10th article relating to the East Indies is improperly and loosely worded; but on application being made to the Secretary of State, the Duke of Bedford received instructions to have it altered agreeably to our sentiments. The Definitive Treaty is expected to be quickly settled and to differ little from the preliminaries. Regret to find, from the return sent by Colonel Lawrence to the Secret Committee on March 31, that the effective strength of the joint forces on the Coast had so much dwindled, especially as we then

had 1,000 French prisoners, besides the 500 who had escaped to Haidar Nayak. Although we hope that many of the King's troops will engage in our service, yet it is to be feared that the French will foment new broils among the country powers, just as they did after the Treaty of 1748. The Council is therefore to send as many prisoners as possible to Europe before the arrival of the Definitive Treaty, and to disperse the rest so as to render them as little dangerous as possible. This matter must be managed delicately so as to give no ground of complaint for infringement of the Treaty. Had hoped that greater progress would have been made in reducing the Nawab's debt. Pigot has written to the Secret Committee that he hoped before leaving India to get it put on such a footing as to secure its discharge, besides obtaining valuable grants of countries. These objects must be secured before the French can interrupt them. We cannot be too careful to prevent their interfering to our prejudice with the country powers, and the grants which Pigot hinted at, will be of material use in that connection. As the French may attempt to renew their connections with Salabat Jang, the Council should immediately secure grants for all the territories which the French held in his dominions. The Madras Despatch of October 2, 1761, suggests that this can be done without difficulty. In future we propose to maintain 2,000 Europeans at Fort St. George. Have requested Government to permit all subalterns, non-commissioned officers and privates in His Majesty's Service, in the infantry, artillery and marines, to join the Company's service. Expect that this will be complied with. No allowance should be made to officers who join the Company's service, but a gratuity may be given to non-commissioned officers and privates who enlist for 5 years, except in cases where they enter on condition of promotion. Batta must, as soon as possible, be entirely laid aside. If anything more than the usual pay is really necessary on special occasions, it must be settled on the most moderate terms. This can best be done now that we have no more to fear from European enemies. If news of the cessation does not reach you in time to prevent the Manilla expedition, news must be sent thither as soon as possible and every prudent measure taken to bring the expenses to an end. If any island not belonging to the Spaniards has been taken, it is to be retained until further orders. As this letter must for a time be kept secret, it is sent under cover to Pigot.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC. LONDON, DECEMBER 17, 1762. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 66, *pp.* 31—44 (*original*, 14 *pp.*)]

Cite despatches of April 21 and November 30. Acknowledge the receipt of despatches, October 2, 1761, from the Military Department, from the Select Committee of the same date, letter from Call of September 2, 1761 (which were all received April 8, 1762); despatch of January 15, received October 22; despatches of April 6, 8 and 17 and letter from Call of April 6, (received November 1, 1762). Report arrival of ships. Have taken up 19 ships of 499 tons each for this season, of which 3 for Coast and China and 2 for Coast and Bay are now under despatch; 3 more for the Coast and Bay will be despatched by the end of February. China supracargoes. Disposal of shipping. The principal articles of export will be as follows:—659 bales of cloth, 48 of long ells, 165 tons of copper, 70 of lead, 5 of steel and 500 barrels of gunpowder, for Madras; 1,295 bales of cloth, 252 tons of copper, 70 of lead, 70 of iron, and 300 barrels of gunpowder, for Bengal; 2,118 bales of cloth, 463 of long ells, 336 tons of copper, 40 of lead, 40 of iron, 115 of tin, 10 of steel, and 200 barrels of gunpowder, for Bombay; 156 bales of cloth and 40 of long ells for Sindh; 761 bales of cloth, 316 of long ells of 10 pieces each for Basra; 50 tons of iron, 5 of steel, 5 of tin, and 200 barrels of gunpowder for Sumatra; 330 bales of cloth, 500 of long ells, 500 pieces of camblets, 100 of hairbines, for China. Besides these the indents for stores will be complied with so far as appears necessary and tonnage will permit. As a plentiful supply of wine was sent last season and tonnage is lacking for other exports and Government stores, no Madeira will be sent by this year's shipping. Victualling and naval stores for His Majesty's Squadron amount to 1,064 tons, and clothing for the King's troops to 99 tons. 1,990 bales of woollens for Bombay will be sent on the Coast and China and Coast and Bay ships to be forwarded by the first good conveyance. Naval and victualling stores will be shipped half on the Coast and half on the Bombay ships. All clothing except that for the Bombay Artillery Company will be sent on the Coast and Bay ships. Are sending only 17 chests of treasure for Sumatra and 30 chests for China, depending on Madras and Fort William to make early provision of treasure for the China trade. Lay down as Standing Order that Madras and Fort William shall make as large remittances as possible every year to China. Warmly approve the conduct of the Fort William presidency in remitting

10 lakhs of rupees to Madras and permitting Bombay to draw on them for 5 lakhs for the purposes of the China trade. Owing to the large exports to Bombay, 2 ships consigned thither will be despatched from Bombay to Madras and Calcutta, either laded with cotton or let out on freight, to be laded home from Madras or Calcutta at the season of their arrival. Two ships are consigned to Fort Marlborough and Canton so as to be able to bring the pepper early to the Canton market. Usual orders for the early despatch of China ships and for sending vessels, which cannot be laded home, to China with cargoes to the value of £20,000 each. In consequence of peace on the Coast, the large revenues and the expectation of the repayment of much of the Nawab's debt, should permit a large Coast investment, especially as there will be but few competitors. Urge the Council to take full advantage of these happy circumstances and to make provision for the supply of sufficient quantities of saltpetre from Bengal. The Company depends upon Madras 'for retrieving the circumstances of the Company, harrassed and almost exhausted by continual and immense expenses.' The Nawab's debt should be got in, and military expenses reduced. More detailed advices will follow by the next shipping. Pigot's services 'during a fatiguing and difficult administration deserve our most grateful notice.' Hope he will alter his intention of returning to England so soon as was reported, as his continuance will be of great service in recovering the Nawab's debt and regulating military and political affairs. Have appointed 9 writers for the Madras establishment:—Charles Desvoeux, Cotton Bowerbank Dent, William Maitland, Robert Barclay, Robert Maunsel, Charles Raitt, Thomas Dyneley, Henry Crawford, and Nathaniel Barlow. In consequence of Mr. Barwell's long services and the death of his eldest son (a Bengal covenanted servant killed at Patna while acting as a volunteer), his son William Barwell has been appointed a factor on the Madras establishment, next below James Taylor, and to serve only 3 years in that rank, instead of 5 which men usually serve who have been appointed factors without previous service as writers. William Barwell, Henry Crawford and Nathaniel Barlow are already in India. Direct that all writers who have come of age and all covenanted servants who have been promoted to new rank should execute fresh covenants. Junior servants must be so employed as to be immediately useful and to equip them for filling more important posts. Fort Marlborough affairs are to be supported

from Madras. Are sending out a bale of long ells which have more gloss than usual. The merchants are to be consulted as to whether they will take it. Are now sending 140 recruits for the Madras establishment, and 60 for Bengal. More will be sent by the later shipping. 100 are sent to Sumatra by the Sumatra and China ships.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC. LONDON, DECEMBER 22, 1762. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol.* 2, *pp.* 68–69 (*original,* 2 *pp.*)]

Cite despatch of December 9. His Majesty has decided to recall the 4 marching regiments and the 4 companies of artillery in the East Indies, permitting the ensigns, lieutenant fireworkers and privates to join the Company's service. Presumably Lord Egremont will send the necessary orders. No marines can be left behind. This recall will not of course affect Lawrence or Caillaud; but Coote presumably will be directed with the others to return to England, although he has been appointed Commander-in-chief in Bengal. Shall be glad if he can remain if consistent with His Majesty's order. The Council is to convey to all ranks of His Majesty's troops the Company's grateful thanks to their important services.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC. LONDON, DECEMBER, 29, 1762. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol.* 2, *p.* 71 (*original,* 1 *p.*)]

Mention a current report that the French are fitting out a large number of ships for the East Indies. Until this matter is cleared up, all our presidencies must remain on their guard and defer the reduction of our forces till further orders. Nothing can be absolutely depended on until a definitive treaty is signed.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC. LONDON, MARCH 9, 1763. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 66, *pp.* 45–83 (*original,* 39 *pp.*)]

Cite despatches of November 30, December 6, 17, 22 and 29; and Secretary's letter of December 23, 1762, regarding supposed damage to woollen goods on the *Hawke.* Now despatch the *Lord Clive, British King* and *Pigot* (Coast and Bay ships).

Shipping movements. Have taken up one more ship, the *Pitt,* to carry about 300 recruits to Madras. Have purchased the *Lapwing* (120 tons, 10 guns, 21 men) to send the necessary orders

immediately on the conclusion of the negotiations. Confirm the orders of December 17 regarding shipping. If all the vessels cannot be despatched as recommended, the *Lord Clive* is to be let or otherwise employed till the following season. The *Pitt* is to be sent on to China with a cargo. She will proceed in the track of her last voyage but one, and the commander is to make such discoveries and observations as may assist in following that track in future so as to render the China voyage practicable at all seasons. The return of registers of private trade laden by ships' officers has been neglected in 2 cases lately. They must be sent regularly in future. Lament the great expense of sending home Company's ships carrying French prisoners in part dead freighted. The *Falmouth* and *Prince Edward*, so sent, cost £9,000 each for dead freight. Approve the freighting of the *Admiral Watson* to Manilla as she could not be sent home the same season, especially as her earnings amounted to 7,949 pagodas, almost equal to the expenses incurred for the term of her voyage. Ships detained in India should be employed on such terms as may reimburse at least all expenses including demurrage and, if possible, with a reasonable profit. Lament the necessity of despatching vessels to China without the proper amount of treasure. It is hoped that later ships have been better provided. Lament the loss of the *Fatteh Salaam* with so many troops on board. As she was a very old country-built ship, she should have been carefully surveyed before being employed. This must never be omitted. *La Favori*, a French ship captured by the Company's ship *Royal George* in August 1759, has been condemned by the Court of Admiralty as a prize for the Company's use. It has been resolved that ⅜ths of the produce of the ship and cargo (amounting to 5,865 pagodas), shall be divided among the ship's company though not entitled to a share by law; but Captain Beamish, since deceased, has been excluded from any share, for having misappropriated valuables found on board his prize.

As a printing press can be of no use to the Company, no types are sent; and the charge of 18 pagodas a month to a printer is to be stopped. Complain of the lack of precision in indents and accounts of remains. Regret that cloth sent out has been invoiced at prices higher than usual; this cannot be remedied at present as all woollens have risen greatly in price since the beginning of the War. Regarding the disposal of woollen goods, the Company rely on the Council's endeavouring to promote their sales to the benefit of the nation and the Company without any advantage to the Councillors.

It is strange that when broadcloth is 'so generally in use by almost every man you see, the principal dealers tell you no more than 600 bales can possibly be vended,' although much may come from Bengal, Bombay and Persia. It could surely be bought cheaper at first hand at Madras. In order to increase the exports of British produce as much as possible, the Company will continue to send copper, the sale of which should be encouraged as much as possible. The account sales show that it fetches 90 to 91 pagodas a candy, which yields a small profit. It is hoped that Bengal will continue to support the China trade and that Madras will be able to do so.

Enclose a list of the investment. Hope that there is a probability of the Madras investment being renewed. If advances are really necessary for its conduct, they may be given; and perhaps prompt payment for the investment when delivered, may give the merchants such credit as may make advances unnecessary. In no case may our servants have any concern in the investments on their own account as was formerly practised in the Northern settlements. It is hoped that Turner has succeeded in reviving the investment at Cuddalore. As soon as the Definitive Treaty takes effect, the demand for saltpetre will fall; and as far as possible tonnage is to be filled with bale goods rather than additional quantities of saltpetre.

Proceedings of the Commissaries to settle the disputes with the Dutch in Bengal. The Company was glad to receive from Madras the declarations regarding the assistance given by the Dutch to D'Estaing in his expedition against Fort Marlborough.

It is hoped that the prudent negotiations set on foot with Tanjore regarding the payment of the tribute to the Nawab may render compulsion unnecessary. Regarding Chidambaram where troops were to be cantoned, it might be well to keep a small party there to prevent the French from occupying it. Representations to the Negapatam Council regarding their enlistment of French prisoners were entirely justified. Call's report on Masulipatam and other Northern factories was very useful; and the measures for rendering Masulipatam useless in case it should be restored to the French were well judged.

The Company doubts whether Dalrymple's attempts to establish trade at Sulu will be successful as the Government of the Sultan is not well enough established. No settlement can be formed there, for it would need good fortifications and a respectable force

to secure it from such 'malicious designing people' as the Guimbos. Dalrymple's agreement seems to promise profit but depends upon uncertain contingencies—(1) that the Sulu people provide the goods for China; and (2) that the goods produce the expected profit. The Company is satisfied that the project was taken up with a view to advance their interest; and although no settlement can be formed, trade may be continued. It would have been well if a sample had been sent of the 'agal agal or hysy' (a gum used by the Chinese in the silk manufacture), also 'Massaroong' clove bark, and cinnamon. It was wise to send an assistant with Dalrymple.

Regarding the fortifications, the former directions regarding economy are repeated. All prudent measures must be taken to encourage substantial people to reside at Madras. The measures taken to let out the ground between the old fortifications and the new seem well-adapted for that purpose. In point of trade it is right to allow Armenians and other foreign merchants to build there; but the Council must judge whether it will prove prudent to allow them to remain in case of a war; this however is covered by the condition that the owners of new houses shall be obliged to dispose of them in case of the Company's disapproval. The Company approves George Mackay not being permitted to sell his house in the fort to any but a European residing in India with the Company's permission. But this power is to be used with impartiality and candour. Only such Roman Catholics shall be permitted to reside in the White Town as will behave quietly and subject to the condition of quitting their houses whenever Council think fit. On this condition the Carvalhos may be allowed to occupy theirs. In regard to Call's demands for young engineers, the Company finds it difficult to engage any. Perhaps suitable persons may be found among the young writers. Charles Desvoeux, for example, can be tried.

Provided the farms are let to persons of ability who will make improvements, the plan of letting them for 5 years seems good, as an increase at every new term may be expected; but care should be taken that the rates should not be so high as to distress and ruin the farmers, as was the case in 1756 with Poonamallee. Trust that this will not occur in the Betel and Arrack farm which has been let for so much more than formerly. The leasing of the Masulipatam revenues for one year on sealed proposals is approved.

John Hollond's covenants have been returned as he has not signed them. William Cumming, writer, having recovered his health, has been allowed to return with his standing. Confirm the appointment of Samuel Griffiths, as Chaplain of Madras. Send some Divinity books in consequence of the application of the Ministers and Churchwardens. Major Richard Smith has delivered in a Persian letter which he says he received from the Nawab addressed to the Court of Directors. Enclosed with it are copies in English of letters from Pigot to the Nawab of June 23, 1760, and from Pigot to the Nawab of January 30, 1761, regarding the discharge of his debts. Major Smith also brought letters for Lord Clive and other persons, and one from the Nawab to the King which he delivered without previously acquainting us. The letter to the Company cannot be answered as no translation accompanied it, and the Nawab should be made sensible of the impropriety of using such private conveyances. Every endeavour should be made to prevent information of the Company's affairs passing through any channel but the Court of Directors. Complain of irregularities in the despatch of the Chaplain's registers of births, marriages and burials. The proposed allowances to the Council and other Company's servants would have to be applied to the other presidencies as well as to Madras, and would involve so many difficulties that no alteration can be permitted for the present. The proposal to conduct public business by Committees of senior servants under Council is totally disapproved, though the present method may involve frequent attendance at Council in time of war. The allowance of 200 pagodas for the passage of Coxeter and his family is permitted on account of his function; but the Company is under no obligation to send home indigent persons and forbid its being done in future without absolute necessity. Orders have been given for proper care being taken of Captain Beaver's 2 children; but the practice of sending children home to the care of the Company should not be continued. Appointment of Alexander Campbell as Assaymaster in Bengal. He is permitted to remove to Madras in case of a vacancy there. He will have salary and appointments of a junior merchant with £80 a year as gratuity, on condition of instructing a person selected by the Council in the art of assaying. Enclose list of cadets in order of rank. By the last shipping 420 recruits were despatched for Madras; 300 more will be sent by the *Pitt*. Also send recruits for Bengal, Bombay, etc. The transfer of Captain Freake's Company of Light

Horse to Bengal is approved, as it was thought that the troop of Hussars were sufficient for all services. As cavalry is very expensive, a reduction is recommended when possible, for the Company is informed that well trained infantry are much more useful in India with a few horse to head and lead on the Black horse. Recruits being much needed in Bengal, the men intended thither are to be forwarded without fail with as many additional men as may be needed and can be spared. No further innovations are to be admitted in military allowances, for no military service whatever has so many advantages attending it as ours. Josiah Bullock has been permitted to return to his rank in the military establishment in consideration of his good character.

Some services may be best performed by contracts provided they are made on the lowest terms; but the contract for redwood for the China market was given at 3¾ pagodas a candy while it was purchased in May 1761 at 2½ pagodas. Why then was Captain Jackson allowed 5¾ a candy? It was right to take over his redwood, but it should have been done at a reasonable price. The conduct of the Committee of Accounts is approved, but the Sub-Accountant's report on the expenditure for the year ending April 1760 was given in only after a delay of 12 months.

The terms for maintaining European cavalry seem very high. It is hoped that they will be reduced when opportunity offered. The accounts for the subsistence of French prisoners are not so properly authenticated as they should have been. The subsistence to the officers and civil servants among them amounts to £61,252, whereas according to the general books, the expenditure on this head in December 1761, including diet and clothing of the soldiers amounted to £78,131. Separate accounts must be stated and fully authenticated in order to procure repayment. The pay of the French officers of rank and in general the allowances to their civil servants seem to have been greater than those of the English Company's covenanted servants. The private soldier's diet at 4 fanams a day exceeded the Company's pay, and they received clothing extra, whereas Company's men provide theirs by stoppages. The motive for this liberality must be fully explained.

No reasons are given for the large allowances made to the Chiefs at Cuddalore, Masulipatam and Vizagapatam. At the last place the customs and revenues only amount to 4,200 pagodas a year. The Company has no means of judging the reasonableness of the allowances at Masulipatam and Cuddalore.

Sumatra affairs: Duplicates of the registers of the Mayor's Court and the Court of Requests, lost on the *Grantham*, have not yet been received. They must be procured and duly authenticated. As regards the suit between Edwards (the Assaymaster) and Dupré (Mintmaster's Assistant) which has been referred to England by appeal, the Company's Solicitor will be directed to defend Dupré. The Mayor's Court seems to have been right in refusing to send up to the Court of Appeal depositions which have been quashed in the lower court; but an appeal might have laid against the order quashing the depositions.

Approve of the lodging in the Company's cash of 2,900 pagodas the sale proceeds of the *Mignon's* prize, in spite of Captain Tiddeman's protests. The King's marine officers have no right to it. Even the Company has none. Approve also the carrying into the Company's accounts proceeds of the captures of Pondichery and Karikal, as no distribution can be made until His Majesty's grant has been obtained. Careful report is to be made of all captures to which the King's officers have any pretensions. The miscarriage of the expedition against the French Islands by Keppel's Squadron failing to join Cornish's is regrettable; but it is not the Company's fault. Approve the measures to bring together all the men of each King's regiment.

Supplement: Have appointed William Steevens, a young man who has studied the different branches of mathematics, especially fortifications, assistant Engineer at Madras. It is hoped that under Major Call's care, the manufacture of gunpowder will be so improved as to lessen the demand from Europe. His letter of April 12, 1762, gives a complete account of the process used and will be submitted to the most skilful persons here for their remarks. It is thought that the defects of Indian powder are due to its not being worked enough, and the poor quality of the charcoal used. The samples of gunpowder sent proved very deficient in strength. Further remarks concerning the powder mill and glazing bricks. The Ministry intends to recall His Majesty's troops from India when peace is made. Private men and non-commissioned officers should be enlisted and the King's ordnance, muskets, etc., should be taken over after strict examination.

Appended are: (1) report on the testing at Waltham abbey powder mills of certain ingredients of gunpowder sent (p. 121); (2) list of cadets (p. 163) which includes Richard Symonds, Gibson,

Thomas Bruce, James Abbis, Charles Feake, Thomas Vashon, Hugh Robert Alcock, John Searle, George Higgins, William Collins and Edward Jacob; and (3) list of investment (pp. 103—106).

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC. LONDON, MARCH 9, 1763. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol. 2, pp. 74—81 (original, 8 pp.)*]

The Definitive Treaty was signed at Paris, February 10, and the ratifications will soon be exchanged. Send copy of the 11th article which relates to the East Indies, and an explanatory declaration signed by the Duke of Bedford. Trust that the wording is sufficiently clear to prevent any considerable mistake; nevertheless judge it desirable to inform the presidencies of the meaning the Company attaches to it. (1) We are to restore all the French factories held by them in Malabar, Coromandel, Orissa and Bengal at the beginning of 1749, while they renounce all their later acquisitions. We must therefore first ascertain what the French held in January 1749. Dupleix' Memoir states that they had in Coromandel, Pondichery, Karikal and the factories of Masulipatam and Yanam; in Bengal, Chandernagore and the 5 factories of Balasore, Dacca, Kasimbazar, Jugdea and Patna; and in Malabar, Mahé and the factories at Surat and Calicut. Believe this is an accurate account. (2) The Council must next ascertain the extent at that time of all places subsequently enlarged, as the later acquisitions have been renounced. This is particularly important in the case of Pondichery and Karikal. Believe that the former was enlarged in 1749 by Chanda Sahib's grants of Villiyanallur, and Bahur with 80 dependent villages. Believe that all the lands at Karikal were acquired at a later date. At Masulipatam nothing more than the French factory is to be restored, while the town and the dependent districts will remain in our possession as the French surrendered all claims to the Circars. Although the Treaty directs the factories alone to be restored and so perhaps may be strictly interpreted to exclude the restoration of any territories however long held, nevertheless the Company does not desire to exclude the French from such small districts as were attached to their factories in 1748. (3) The French renunciation comprehends every settlement in the Moghal empire, except those to be now restored. In case they should claim any factory by grant from Chanda Sahib before 1749, it is observed that any such is implicitly renounced by their recognition of Muhammad Ali Khan which involves the admission that

Chanda Sahib's grants were invalid. Moreover nothing which they did not actually possess on January 1, 1749 is to be restored, so that a dormant grant can avail them nothing under the Treaty. Although they were actually in possession of Madras in 1749, that place had already been restored by the Treaty of 1748, and therefore the French had already given up all claims to it from the specified date. Presume that the country powers will not raise any objections except perhaps in the case of Karikal which with dependent districts was sold to the King of Tanjore for a lakh and a half of rupees. If the purchase money has actually been paid, the consent of the King of Tanjore must be obtained for the repayment of a suitable part of price in return for the readmission of the French to their factory. Trust that all the forts and buildings of the French factories were destroyed before the signing of the Treaty as they are to be restored in the condition they were in on that date. The only retrocessions which the French will have to make will be Natal and Tapanuli in Sumatra. If these are still in possession of the Dutch, the French must compel them to give those places back to us. (4) Preservation of a permanent superiority in Bengal by restricting the French from having any fortifications or forces there. It is not certainly known how far southward the province of Bengal extends, but the Duke of Bedford signed an explanatory declaration limiting the application of the term to the country north of Yanam. (5) The French acknowledgment of Muhammad Ali Khan as Nawab, and of Salabat Jang as Subahdar of the Deccan, has always been considered a very desirable object in India as extinguishing all claims arising from Chanda Sahib. Hope further that it will be considered by the Nawab and the other Indian princes as a proof of our regard for our engagements. Are assured there was much difficulty in obtaining it.

The recognition of Muhammad Ali and Salabat Jang implies confirmation of our title to the territories we hold under their grants. Trust that the Treaty has extinguished all claims which might have occasioned a new war against us or any Indian prince. Expect the Council to do their utmost to prevent the French from acquiring new claims of that sort, and before the French can be strong enough to establish new projects, the Council should be able so firmly to establish our influence with the country powers as to prevent any future grants to our prejudice. 'We trust that these restless neighbours who have heretofore given us so much

trouble, will be confined within due bounds and never more become formidable to us in any part of India.'

Appended is a copy of the 11th article of the Treaty with the Duke of Bedford's declaration thereon, dated February 10, 1763 (pp. 208–209).

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO THE SELECT COMMITTEE AT MADRAS. LONDON, MARCH 9, 1763. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol.* 2, *pp.* 82–83 (*original*, 2 *pp.*)]

Regarding the Madras despatch of April 8, 1762 to the Secret Committee, the negotiations with the King of Kandy was a delicate matter, requiring great caution to avoid giving the Dutch any just cause of complaint. We are advised that while we cannot accept the grant of any Dutch settlement, we may settle and trade in any part of the island of Ceylon not subject to them. In spite of their exclusive trade, a settlement in Ceylon would be desirable, and it will be well if this opportunity has been improved as far as possible consistently with the Treaties between England and Holland. But probably the King will require assistance which those treaties will not admit of. We should not involve the nation in any new war, especially as the French, resettling in India, will be only too glad to take advantage of such a situation. Everything however should be done to improve your intercourse with Kandy and to prevent the King from inviting the French thither. Council should endeavour to procure some plants or seeds of cinnamon to be sent to Bencoolen, Anjengo and Bombay, at the first two of which it is likely to flourish.

Appended is a copy of J. Dunning's opinion, dated February 19, 1763, advising that the Company may legally form settlements in Ceylon where the Dutch are not actually established. (Pp. 201–202.)

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO ROBERT PALK, ETC. LONDON, MARCH 31, 1763. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 66, *pp.* 85—87 (*original*, 3 *pp.*) *Duplicate in Military Despatches from England, Vol.* 2, *pp.* 93—95.]

Cite despatch of March 9. Now despatch the *Lapwing* in order to proceed to Madras as quickly as possible with news of the Definitive Peace. On her arrival, she shall be disposed of as shall be most for the Company's service. She carries 500 oz. of silver for incidental expenses. If she is employed in the East Indies, the captain, etc., may be continued on her. If sold, they should be

paid off. Now transmit new commissions under His present Majesty's warrant, authorizing Council to appoint courts martial.

CIRCULAR DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO THE COUNCILS AT MADRAS, BENGAL, BOMBAY AND SUMATRA. LONDON, MARCH 31, 1763. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol.* 2, *pp.* 84—92 (*original*, 9 *pp.*)]

Cite despatches of March 9. Announce that the ratifications of the Treaty have been exchanged. Copies of the Treaty now sent differ slightly in the English translation from that sent before which was made by the Company's orders. That now sent is to be your guide. On the 21st, Lord Egremont sent out copies of the 11th and 23rd articles in order that we may despatch the necessary orders to our Governors, together with His Majesty's orders to his commanders in the East Indies to restore all places in their possession according to the terms of the Treaty. These orders are addressed to Lawrence, Draper, Coote and Cornish by name or to the Commanding Officer of any island or place occupied by our armies, instructing them to deliver to the Commissaries authorized by the Most Christian King any factories to be restored to France or any territories to be restored to Spain, also to secure the restoration of Natal and Tapanuli in Sumatra. In addition to these, letters have been addressed to Lawrence and Cornish, dated March 21, instructing the former that the Company will send the necessary orders which he is authorized to carry out, and authorizing the latter to deliver up any places under his command. Company's despatch of March 9, containing orders for the execution of the Treaty, was laid before the Ministers and was not disapproved. It appears from the letters mentioned in the present despatch that His Majesty's officers are only concerned in the restoration of places actually in their possession, but measures for putting the Treaty into execution must be concerted with them. Madras is principally concerned in securing the recovery of Natal and Tapanuli; but all presidencies should co-operate in getting back the prisoners and Chinese transported from Sumatra to the French Islands. Exact and authenticated accounts of the expenses for maintaining the French prisoners should be transmitted to the Company. The Admiralty has been directed to permit 2 ships of the line and 1 frigate to remain in India long enough to assist in the execution of the Treaty and to suppress any pirates who may infest the Indian seas after the war. The remainder of the

Squadron is to return with as many returning officers and soldiers as can be accommodated. Lawrence is to take steps to encourage ensigns of the foot and lieutenants of the artillery, etc., to join the Company's service, informing the officers that they will not thereby lose their rank in His Majesty's army. He will arrange measures for the immediate return of those who do not so engage. The King's ordnance, muskets, etc., will be delivered to the Company's servants. The Madras Council should take care that proper notices and directions are sent to the other presidencies. Only serviceable ordnance, etc., are to be accepted. Such of the returning officers, men and invalids as cannot be accommodated on the Squadron are to be sent back on the Company's ships, first completing their complement and sending the remainder on charterparty terms of £10 a head. For the officers who return on the Company's ships the same allowances will be made as when they came out, viz., to the owners £10 for each officer and to the commanders for diet, £50 for each Colonel, Lieutenant-Colonel and Major, and £30 for others. These payments will be made in England. If officers want further accommodation, they must meet their own charges.

Appended are: (1) Printed copy of the Treaty of Paris, dated February 10, 1763 (pp. 112—158) and His Majesty's declaration, dated March 1, (p. 159);

(2) Lord Egremont's letter to the Company, dated March 21, 1763, forwarding extracts from the Treaty and duplicate originals of His Majesty's orders to the commanders of His Majesty's land and sea forces in India (pp. 170—183); and

(3) Letter from Robert Wood to Robert James (Secretary), dated March 22, sending copies of Egremont's letters, dated March 21, to the Lords of the Admiralty, Master-General of the Ordnance, Secretary at War, Major-General Lawrence and Vice-Admiral Cornish (pp. 184—190).

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC. LONDON, APRIL 6, 1763. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol. 2, pp. 96-97 (original, 2 pp.). Duplicate in Public Despatches from England, Vol. 66, pp. 89—91.*]

Now despatch the *British King*, Captain Peter Pigot, Commander, with duplicates of last month's despatches. Six Russian officers who were to have been sent to India on board some of the men-of-war, to perfect themselves in the science and business of navigation, will be sent, now that peace has been made, on 3 of the Company's ships. They are to be shown proper civilities.

Egremont has transmitted to us an order from the King of France and a letter from Duc de Choiseul to the French Governor at Natal and Tapanuli to deliver them to the officers of the English East India Company. They are forwarded in original. Do not suppose there are any French officers in charge of these places, so that the necessary measures may probably be concerted with the French commanding officer on the Coast.

Appended are: (1) an original order, dated March 28, 1763, signed 'Louis,' countersigned 'Duc de Choiseul' and sealed (p. 191); and (2) an original letter signed by the Duc de Choiseul of the same date, directing the surrender to the English of Natal and Tapanuli, accompanied by copies and translations (pp. 192—195).

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO GEORGE PIGOT, ETC. LONDON, APRIL 27, 1763. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol. 2, pp.* 98—102 (*original*, 5 *pp.*).]

On April 15, Captain Robert Fletcher arrived by His Majesty's ship *Sea Horse*, with the news of the surrender of Manilla and the Philippine Islands, reported by Dawsonne Drake, etc., in their despatch of November 10. Are gratified at the satisfactory delivery of the conquered islands by Draper and Kempenfelt. The news has been published in the Gazettes of April 16 and 19. Fletcher also brought the Madras Despatch of August 2, 1762, and other papers regarding the expedition and division of the booty. Approve the conduct of the Madras Council. The forces from the Coast were not so numerous as Draper expected but are shown by the event to have been sufficient. Approve the Council's insisting on the delivery of the captured territory to the Company's agents. As Draper left England fully satisfied that the plunder should be divided, half to the Company's use and the other half for the captors, the disputes between the Council and Draper, etc., on these matters are surprising. Draper and Cornish are plainly wrong in resolving to allow the Company only one-third. Approve the final resolve to leave the division to His Majesty's decision. Approve the permission given to Drake, etc., to receive into the Company's cash any sums that might be offered, and to forward to Canton such amounts as could be spared for the Company's commerce there. Repeat the former instructions for an exact account of all disbursements on the expedition. Regarding the disposal of captured cannon and military stores, forward letter written by Mr. Wood. Approve the order of the Council that all ordnance, etc., not needed for the defence of Manilla should be sent to Madras.

In case any have been so sent, they are to be kept pending receipt of His Majesty's orders about their disposal. All other measures for putting the Treaty into execution are to be taken. Appointment of a new Committee of Secrecy. Now transmit copies of the letter from Lord Halifax and extracts from Joseph Yorke's letters regarding reinforcements being sent eastwards by the Dutch Company, in fear of designs having been formed against them by the natives of Ceylon and fomented by the English. Measures will be taken with the Ministry to prevent the Dutch using these extraordinary forces against the English. The Council must be on their guard against their attempts. Arrival of shipping.

Appended are: (1) Copies of the London Gazette of April 16 and 19 (pp. 160–169). The former contains a letter from Draper, dated Manilla, November 2, 1762, reporting the capture of the place by storm October 6, with trifling losses except for the death of Major More. The ransom has been fixed at one million sterling. Praises the conduct of the battalion of seamen. Cannot do justice to the consummate bravery and skill of Colonel Monson. Specially mentions the conduct of Lieutenant-Colonel Scott (who brought the despatch home), Major Barker who commanded the artillery. Captain Fletcher, Major of Brigade; Captain Stevenson, Ensigns Cotsford and Barnard, Engineers; Captains Moore and Pemble, Aides-de-camp; Captain Fletcher brings 9 colours taken by his regiment. The latter contains a journal of the proceedings before Manilla. Officers killed were—of the 79th, Major More, Captain Strahan, Lieutenant Fryar; of the battalion of seamen, Captain Porter, Lieutenant of the *Norfolk*, and White, Surgeon's mate of ditto; of the Company's troops, Lieutenant Hardwick drowned. Officers wounded—of the 79th, Captain Sleigh, Lieutenant Hazlewood, Lieutenant Garnons and Ensign Hog; of the battalion of seamen, Neal, midshipman of the *Lenox*; of the marines, Lieutenant Spearing; other ranks, 1 sergeant and 29 privates killed; 3 sergeants and 102 privates wounded. It contains also despatch from Cornish to the Secretary to the Admiralty, dated October 31, 1762, regarding the same operations. Also despatch from the same to the same, dated November 10, reporting the capture of *Santissima Trinidada*, reputed to be worth 3 millions.

(2) Copy of letter from Robert Wood to the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the East India Secret Committee, dated Whitehall, April 23, 1763. States that Lord Egremont considers and has received His Majesty's commands, that the Company's servants in India should not be directed to embark any cannon or

military stores, etc., in the Philippines except what may have been agreed upon by the capitulation, unless the Spanish officer to whom the Islands shall be given up refuses to grant receipts for them (pp. 205—207).

(3) Copies of Halifax's letters to the Company, London, dated April 25 and May 13, 1763, regarding the Dutch armament for Ceylon (pp. 198-200). These were forwarded with Secretary James' letter to the President and Council at Madras, dated May 16, 1763 (p. 111).

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO ROBERT PALK, ETC. LONDON, MAY 13, 1763. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol. 2, pp.* 103—110 (*original, 8 pp.*). *Duplicate in Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 66, *pp.* 93—100.]

Cite despatch of March 9. Are now despatching the *Pitt* by which 300 recruits for the Madras Army are sent. She also carries Government stores which should have been sent by the *Pigot*, and 120 tons of lead for China. Repeat the former instructions regarding her despatch to Canton. Are not sending any treasure thither as was intended, as the capture of Manilla will have furnished the means for supplying Canton with silver; but if there is reason to think that this has not been sufficiently done, further supplies are to be sent so as to provide cargoes for the China ships, and also to leave to the supracargoes a surplus of £1,00,000 for the next investment after lading their ships. One great purpose of this voyage is to enable Captain Jackson to ascertain the new passage to China discovered on the *Pitt's* former voyage, wherein he was Chief Mate. This, it is believed, will enable the Company's ships to sail to China and return thence, at any season of the year.

Captain Robert Villiers Fitzgerald, who raised the recruits now sent, has been given a commission as Captain of the Company and permitted to nominate William Stopford as Lieutenant and William Rogers as Ensign. Their rank and pay commence from their arrival. Enclose a muster-roll of recruits, out of whom a complete company is to be formed for Captain Fitzgerald, and the remainder drafted into the other companies. Captain Fitzgerald, etc., have the duty of keeping these recruits in proper order, but Ensigns James Thomas, John Chandler, and Charles Brady are also or assist. The 3 Ensigns last named are to receive commissions tanking next after Ensign Rogers. On Fitzgerald's death or resignation, his company is to be distributed among the others.

Ships' arrivals. Repeat the previous orders for the employment of the *Winchelsea* in the most advantageous manner for Captain Howe consistently with the Company's interest. Similar orders regarding Captain Webber on the *Lord Clive*.

Regarding the island of Sulu, a settlement with buildings and fortifications is not desired; only a mere residency according to the Secret Committee's despatch of December 23, 1761. If that is feasible, Dalrymple will be appointed there if he likes, with one or two covenanted servants and a few others to assist him, even if there is no immediate prospect of considerable trade, as the Residency might discover some advantages beneficial to the Company. Dalrymple should be recommended to ascertain whether supplies of pepper could not be obtained from Borneo or elsewhere, as the pepper imports have greatly lessened and are not equal to the demand.

Urge the settlement of Chinese families from Manilla or elsewhere on the West Coast of Sumatra. Permit Lawrence to accept a lakh of rupees offered him by the Nawab in gratitude for his past services and in compensation for his losses when the French plundered and destroyed his house at the Mount. Our permission is in consideration of Lawrence's generous and disinterested conduct. As William Stopford declined proceeding to India, Andrew Willson has been appointed Lieutenant of Fitzgerald's company. Measures taken by the French to secure the surrender of Natal and Tapanuli by the Dutch.

Appended are: (1) Letter (in French with translation) from the Duke of Praslin to Mr. Prevost at the Hague, dated Versailles, March 31, 1763, directing him to request the States-General to restore Natal and Tapanuli to the English should they be in their possession (pp. 196–197 of Military Despatches from England, Vol. 2); and (2) copies of commissions granted to Lieutenant Andrew Willson and Captain Robert Villiers Fitzgerald (pp. 135—137 of Public Despatches from England, Vol. 66).

THE MADRAS DESPATCHES, 1763-1764.

DESPATCH FROM GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, SEPTEMBER 3, 1763. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 24, *pp.* 48—53 (*copy,* 5½ *pp.*).]

The snow *Lapwing* arrived August 19, and is now returning. Cite despatch of May 31. Arrival and departure of shipping. On July 4, the *Neptune* left for Sulu with Alexander Dalrymple. The *Hawke* and *Falmouth* sailed for Manilla and China. Have received by the Coast and Bay ships despatches, dated November 30, December 9, 17, 22 and 29, 1762, March 9 and 31, 1763, with letter from Secretary James, dated December 23, 1762. The *Royal George* was too much injured in going down the Hugli to proceed with cargo to England. The *Winchelsea* which remained at Fort William for 20 months from April 1 arrived here July 22 and sailed for Bombay August 13. The Bombay Council, not having been able to lade the *Admiral Pocock* home, sent her round with a cargo of cotton to Bengal. But as that article was not in demand there, it has been sent to Canton on the *Falmouth*. Herbert reports from Batavia that permission to repair the *Earl Temple* has been refused and that she will therefore be sent to Manilla for repairs. This season 16 lakhs of rupees have been sent to China of which 5 lakhs were received from Bengal. It is expected that troubles may interfere with the collection of Bengal revenues and straiten them for cash, so that no assistance can be expected thence for the China trade next season. Even should the receipts from the Nawab be large enough to provide for the Madras expenditure, the assistance of Bengal, and a balance for China, which is very doubtful, it would be impossible to find sufficient goods or silver for the China investment. The Council's sentiments reported by the *Clinton* are every day more and more clearly confirmed. The necessity of sending silver from Europe for the China investment is therefore urged in the strongest manner. For a century past, India has received constant supply of silver from Europe, Persia, and Manilla. For some years it has been deprived of all these resources, and cannot therefore supply silver for a foreign market. It is hoped that this report will be received in time for the

Company to make provision for the China trade next year. Otherwise it is morally certain that it will be disappointed in the China investment. The prize agents of the Spanish galleon captured by the Squadron have desired the Council's opinion as to whether they may dispose of her cargo in Brazil or at Lisbon, without injuring the Company. The Council declined to give an opinion, but make this report to the Company so that proper measures may be taken.

Appended are: (1) Lists of the packet (p. 54); (2) register of diamonds, etc., amounting to 8,909 pagodas; (p. 55); (3) sailing orders of Captain John Griffin of the *Lapwing* snow (pp. 56–57); and (4) manifests of presents (p. 57).

DESPATCH FROM GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, SEPTEMBER 3, 1763. [*Military Despatches to England, Vol.* 3, *pp.* 91—98 (*copy*, 8 *pp.*).]

Acknowledge the receipt of the several despatches by ships which arrived here between June 17 and August 28, 1763. Propose to despatch the *Plassey* in October fully laded, when we will reply in detail to the Company's letters. Are now despatching the *Lapwing*, to report the outbreak of war between the Presidency of Fort William and Qasim Ali Khan. Have received only general advices of which copies have been enclosed. Believe that the real state of the case is impartially set forth in a letter to Pigot from Bengal, dated February, extracted below:—

"Between the Nawab's own jealousy and foolish apprehensions of the power of those he thinks not his well-wishers, the insolence of some of his officers and the unlimited authority exerted or pretended to, by the meanest servant of the meanest Englishman in all parts of this country, it is a difficult matter to prevent squabbles between our people and the Government. One scale or other is always too heavy and whichever side has the turn in his favour is sure to commit horrid abuses."

News of the massacre of the Patna garrison. Most of our troops being engaged against Yusuf Khan, it was impossible to send material assistance to Bengal, but Cornish attended Consultation and very readily offered to send 2 of His Majesty's ships and 2 frigates to Bengal with marines to be landed. At that time, the effective strength of the garrison at Madras was only 368 men of whom 200 of the Company's troops have been sent to Bengal.

In order to facilitate the collection of the Nawab's revenues, and consequently also the payment of his debt, it would have been desirable in any case to assist him in recovering the Madura and Tinnevelly countries; but besides this, whereas the Company's system was formerly wholly commercial, it is now partly commercial and partly military, the reputation of the Company's armies must be maintained; and if Yusuf Khan's defection be disregarded, the Company's powers to subdue him may be doubted and others may likewise attempt to secure independence; but most of all, is Yusuf Khan's declaring himself an ally of the French, his hoisting their colours and receiving a body of Frenchmen (consisting of prisoners on parole). These were sent to his assistance by Maudave, who arrived last year on the Coast, having or pretending to have powers to take charge of their affairs and residing sometimes at Negapatam and sometimes at Tranquebar. These reasons render an expedition against Yusuf Khan indispensable, although the disbursements, which will be carried to the Nawab's accounts, will render the immediate reduction of his debt less than had been hoped. This expedition has hitherto progressed successfully. In the course of this month, it is hoped to occupy the principal places of strength so that a great part of the troops may be withdrawn, on which as great a reinforcement as possible shall be sent up to Bengal. Urge the Company to send out by the shipping which arrives in 1764 as many recruits as it possibly can. Are now negotiating with the Nawab concerning the grant of the country mentioned in Pigot's letter to the Secret Committee. Expect by the next despatch to report that he has ceded country lying round Madras to a considerable value. Are anxious to withdraw the Manilla garrison, etc., as soon as possible. A plan has been made to get them back by next January. If it fails, they cannot return before January or February 1765. Cornish has been persuaded to send the *Panther* thither, and the Company's ships *Revenge* and *Admiral Pocock* will accompany her. The Canton supracargoes have been asked to order all their early ships to call at Manilla to carry the Europeans there to Madras, which will hardly delay these ships beyond 6 weeks. News has been sent to Manilla by the *Revenge* which will proceed with the Council's despatches (to China) and anchor at Macao to save the cost of demurrage at Canton. Fear that in consequence of death or desertions, only half the troops sent to Manilla will return. This should be remembered in determining the number of recruits to be sent

out Although the Company intends to have a body of 2,000, the Council observe that 3,000 are really necessary, for it seldom happens that two-thirds of our troops are fit for service at one time, and to replace losses by death, sickness and other accidents, recruits are needed in the proportion of 1 to 5 annually. Since the publication of the peace, have received a letter from M. de Maudave, the pretended French Chief, stating that he has arrived with full powers to continue the war, and despatched a body of French troops duly commissioned to the assistance of Yusuf Khan, who has made a full cession of the Madura and Tinnevelly countries to the French. He therefore desired us to withdraw our forces. But when some time after his arrival, he assumed the character of a Chief, we applied to him for the cost of subsisting the French prisoners. He replied he was not empowered to do so. Have yet received no communication from the French regarding the peace.

Appended are lists of the packets (pp. 99-100).

DESPATCH FROM GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, NOVEMBER 7, 1763. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 24, *pp.* 58—83 (*copy*, 26 *pp.*).]

Cite despatches of May 31 and September 3, 1763. Are now despatching the *Plassey*. Two ships intended for this side of India, the *British King* and *Pitt*, have not yet arrived. The *Lord Clive* was prevented by winds and currents from making Masulipatam on her way to Bengal in September, and therefore landed the Masulipatam stores at Vizagapatam. It is reported from Bombay that, as the price of cotton is so low in Bengal, attempts were made to let the *Lord Mansfield* and the *Bute* to freight from Bombay to Bengal; but as no offers were received, cargoes of cotton for them are to be purchased on the Company's account. Nine Company's ships remain to be laded from this side of India. The Bengal Council expects to have cargoes for 5; one has already been despatched from Madras, and it is hoped to be able to lade another in February. It cannot yet be decided how the remaining two may best be sent home. While the *Winchelsea* was lying here, Mr. Parslaw, second officer, was permitted to receive his discharge owing to ill-health.

Refer to what was formerly written, October 2, 1761 (regarding the sale of woollen goods) reporting that the principal dealers had offered to take 600 bales at 20 *per cent.* on the invoice. On receipt of the consignments of this year the merchants were at first

willing to repeat their offer of 1761; but on finding that the goods were invoiced at much higher prices, they declined receiving them at 20 *per cent.* advance. On this Council advertised for sealed proposals for the purchase of the whole. As none were received, the goods were put up to public sale [October 6] when 527 bales were sold at an average profit (the pagoda being reckoned at 8 s.) of about 23¾ *per cent.* on the invoice. However 9 *per cent.* is to be allowed on goods cleared within 6 months and 3 *per cent.* on goods cleared between 6 and 12 months. This year about the usual quantities are indented for which is the utmost that can be vended here. The 6 pieces of long ells specially glazed (mentioned in despatch of December 17, 1762) have been shown to the principal dealers who are willing to pay the extra cost as that is small for a few bales by way of variety.

The copper that was sold at 90 pagodas a candy referred to in the Company's despatch of March 9, 1763, fetched an exceedingly high price. What was sold in December did not fetch 75½ pagodas. In July 400 candies, half fine and half coarse, sold, the fine at about 78½ pagodas and the coarse 79¼, yielding a profit of about 18½ *per cent.* on the invoice, from which however the usual discount for speedy clearance was allowed. Six hundred and fifty candies remain and will be put up next month.

Five hundred bales consigned to Bombay *via* Madras were laded on the *Winchelsea* which touched here on her way to Bombay on a freighted voyage. Five hundred more bales were also put on to her from the *Deptford*, it being thought that they also were intended for Bombay. It now appears that they were really designed for Bengal. This mistake is much regretted. Nine hundred and fifty-five bales remain to be sent to Bombay, which will be done in January or February.

Repeat previous assurances that it is impossible to provide the silver needed for the China trade at Madras. The sums sent this year to China and the expenses of the Madura campaign have forced Council to borrow at interest a sum of 84,000 pagodas, and it is feared that for some months we shall be very bare of cash.

Not only Madras but also the Army and Navy have been greatly distressed for want of Madeira wine this season.

In the past it has been difficult to recover balances due from merchants who contracted to supply redwood, as the cutters were said to be always greatly in arrears. An attempt was therefore made to provide redwood without advances. The best offer that

was received was 3¾ pagodas for the China sort; and 2¾ for the Europe sort. This contract was thought advantageous, the contractors having more than once declared that they were making nothing by it and that they wished to relinquish it. What was received of Chepperumal Chetti in 1761 at 2½ pagodas a candy was the Europe sort which is much inferior to the China sort. This latter consists of long, straight, large sticks; few merchants can provide it at anything like 3¾ pagodas a candy. Captain Jackson had actually bought and shipped a quantity at 5¾ pagodas *per* candy. As it has been previously resolved that none should be sent to China on private account, he was required to deliver it to the Company's supracargoes but allowed the price he had given for it.

When customs-duty was demanded on goods said to be Manilla prize goods landed from His Majesty's ships, payment was refused and the Admiral desired that the Company should prefer its claim in England. The amount due was 763 pagodas.

As regards the investment, our efforts have not been so successful as could be wished, in spite of the tranquillity now subsisting on the Coast. The long troubles have driven many weavers into other occupations, and it will be a considerable time before the manufacture can be properly re-established. The Madras merchants have been punctual in bringing in their cloth, but those at Cuddalore have fallen very short both in quantity and quality, alleging the great dearness and scarcity of cotton. On being threatened with severe notice of their misconduct, they promised to make amends by future care and assiduity. The bales from Bandarmalanka and Vizagapatam have not yet arrived. They will be very short in quantity. The Cuddalore merchants are unwilling to contract to supply any quantity of salampores fine and middling, which the Chief and Council of Cuddalore thought might be added to the goods provided for the Company. The Company's servants have not been concerned either directly or indirectly in the investment since the Company's orders on the subject were received.

The Viceroy at Goa has promised to recommend the authorities at Macao to show to British subjects the same good treatment as formerly. The Peace with France and Spain has been proclaimed.

The Karikal farm has been re-let for one year to Tirumal Rao for 20,000 pagodas. The Town Brokerage farm has been re-let until July 31, 1766, at 1,020 pagodas a year. At the last sale it

fetched 845 pagodas. Nayinar, the betel and tobacco renter, claims to have lost 8,970 pagodas during the Nawab's stay here owing to his maintenance of a bazaar.[1] The sum has been deducted from the rent and charged to the Nawab's account.

Dupré has been permitted to take his passage for England on the *Plassey*. Fairfield succeeds him as Import Warehousekeeper and Claud Russell as Assaymaster; Ardley having delivered over to Carter, etc., the management of the Sumatra factories, returned here recently. Turner has been allowed to quit Cuddalore on account of his health, leaving the factory in charge of Calland. Dalrymple has been allowed to return to England on account of his private affairs. Brown, a factor in the Company's service, broke his leg by falling from his horse, and died August 11. Edward Middleton, writer, has been allowed to resign and proceed to Bengal to assist his brother, one of the Company's servants, in the management of his concerns. The Reverend Mr. Merrifield is returning to Europe with Admiral Cornish in consequence of ill-health. Regret the omission to require covenanted servants to execute new covenants on their coming to age. This has now been done at Madras and orders have been sent to the same purpose to the subordinate factories. The covenants of Hollond and Barlow shall be properly executed on their return from China and Manilla, respectively. Unfortunately Henry Crawford had already proceeded to Europe to solicit appointment in the Company's service, before the orders for his appointment had arrived. Croke, who came out with his family this season with permission to reside in Bengal, being in the decline of life, and finding Madras more agreeable, has been permitted to remain and draw his allowance here subject to the Company's approval. Military promotions are recorded in (Public) Consultations June 14, August 9, 29 and October 31, 1763. The clothing allowed the French prisoners was made at the special recommendation of De Leyrit who promised that the amount should be repaid. The victualling of the French prisoners at four fanams a day was the rate always allowed the Company's Steward for victualling recruits for the first few days after their arrival. Proposals for victualling prisoners were afterwards invited with a statement of the kind and quantity of food to be supplied. The lowest offer was 3¼ fanams and a contract was given at that rate. The Company's troops can feed themselves cheaper because they eat

[1] Goods which paid no duty.

fish whenever it is plentiful and cheap, and also Indian food which is still cheaper, for they cannot always afford meat. If any one has been employed on wages to victual the prisoners like this, such attention would not have been paid to the provisions as men pressed by necessity give to their own concerns. In making the contract, it was necessary to specify the diet in order to avoid endless complaints. The contractor makes a profit, but no one would make any offer unless he expected a profit. The allowances to the French officers and civil servants are conformable to a list agreed to and signed by De Leyrit which was considered a sufficient voucher. A complete statement of the expenditure on the French prisoners is being prepared. They are now reduced to about 200, mostly invalids.

The Company by its despatch of March 13, 1761, permitted the allowance to Chiefs of subordinate factories to be increased if 50 pagodas a month would not support them in a plain frugal manner; 100 pagodas a month is now allowed to the Chiefs of Vizagapatam, Masulipatam and Cuddalore; this is not really more than sufficient for that purpose as there are unavoidable expenses connected with their positions. But it is hoped that this sum with industry in trade affords a reasonable encouragement.

The printing press will be discontinued when copies have been taken of such forms as may be of use in the different offices.

His Majesty's ships now here, are the *Norfolk*, *America* and *Weymouth*. The last, having been despatched from Manilla to Bombay, arrived here September 28. His Majesty's ships *Panther* sailed for Manilla August 23; the *Argo* sailed with reinforcements for Bengal August 24; the *York* and *Liverpool*, August 30; and the *Medway*, September 9. The *Grafton*, *Lenox* and *Trinidada*, prize, sailed for England, September 25. The *Baleine* has sailed to the southward with stores for the Madura siege. The Agents of the army have produced the original accounts of the sales of the principal goods taken at Pondichery. It is hoped that a complete statement will be forwarded in the packets, including military stores taken at Pondichery and Karikal. The Karikal prize agent is dead, but it is believed that the prize effects sold there produced a very trifling sum.

Supplement: Re-establishment of the Sumatra settlements. Father Severini died in September last. The Reverend Father Stanton who is esteemed a quiet and well disposed man has been appointed his successor. The *Plassey* was despatched September 29 to bring up bales from Cuddalore, but though she sailed thence

October 15, she did not arrive till November 1. This was lucky, for on October 21, there was so violent a gale that all the vessels in the road were wrecked including the *Union* on which 212 bales of the Vizagapatam investment had been laded (only a few ruined pieces have been recovered). His Majesty's ships *Norfolk*, *Weymouth* and *America* on the first appearance of bad weather put to sea on October 20, and returned dismasted, having run down as far as Cuddalore where the chief violence of the storm fell. The *Plassey* met the gale 50 leagues east of Pondichery but sustained no damage. The *Success* snow has brought some bales of the Masulipatam investment which seemed equal to muster; but the moorees and cloth for lampasses from Bandarmalanka prove too thick and coarse for painting. Now send various patterns for chintz in order that the Company may signify those which it prefers. Regarding the Cuddalore investment, the manufacture is much improved (except that of the Udaiyarpalaiyam cloth and Shiyali No. 1), and some of it is superior to muster. The blue cloth is of a good fabric for painting and very well dyed. Send a complete account of the sales of prize goods taken at Pondichery with lists of civil and military stores taken there, at Karikal and Alambarai, with a valuation of such as are in good condition at the rates at which similar goods are invoiced by the Company. No value has been assigned to partly damaged and quite unserviceable goods. An account of the freight and other charges incurred in transporting the stores to Madras is also enclosed; as also account sales of civil stores taken before the reduction of Pondichery; and a statement of the expenditure on the French prisoners, together with an estimate of the monthly charges of the prisoners still remaining. The accounts of the subsistence of prisoners from April 1760 to January 1761, never having been properly authenticated, Messrs. De La Roque and Isaac were appointed by De Leyrit to inspect and authenticate them. They would only certify the earlier accounts on a supposition of their being just, having made a comparison between those accounts and the running ones. Till the French prisoners were subsisted by contract, the only vouchers for the expenditure on them consisted of the monthly accounts put in by the servants appointed to that duty, no Commissaries having been appointed by the French to inspect them. Alexander has been permitted to resign and sails on the *Plassey*. Newton returns to England on His Majesty's ship *Weymouth* as also Captain Tod. It is recommended that this officer should be reinstated in his rank if his health permits his

returning to India. The Company's ship, *British King*, arrived October 31. Cornish intends sailing to-morrow to Trincomalee with His Majesty's ships *Norfolk*, *Weymouth*, and *America*, to repair damages and then proceed to England.

Postscript: Bills have been drawn on the Company at 90 days' sight for £19,693; and at 12 months' sight bearing interest at 4 *per cent.* after the 1st 90 days for £12,702 both at 8 s. a pagoda.

DESPATCH FROM GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, NOVEMBER 7, 1763. [*Military Despatches to England, Vol.* 3, *pp.* 101—106 (*copy*, 6 *pp.*).]

Cite despatch of September 3. [This goes by the *Plassey*.] The utmost efforts have been made to get rid of the French prisoners before Commissaries could arrive from France to demand them, and only a few are left fit to serve. But for the expedition to Madura, the Nawab's debt would have been reduced to an inconsiderable sum. It is now reckoned at about 35 lakhs of rupees. The Nawab has promised to discharge this by the end of October next, paying 2 lakhs a month in January, February and March, 5 lakhs a month from April to July and 3 lakhs from August to October. The grant of countries mentioned in the last despatch has been completed. The countries extend to the Markanam river near Alambarai on the south, to 'Churacot', a little to the north of Pulicat on the north, and to the 2 Conjeeverams on the west. These are expected to produce at least 2½ lakhs of pagodas a year. When Call returns from Madura, he will be directed to survey that country. The French will perhaps, on re-establishing themselves in India, attempt to form connections with the country powers in order to secure grants to enable them to maintain a military force, as the Treaty of Peace does not seem to restrict them from seeking new grants. Salabat Jang continues a prisoner with Nizam Ali who entirely manages the affairs of the Deccan. Could a force have been sent to Masulipatam, grants of Mustaphanagar, Ellore, Murtazanagar, Rajahmundry and Chicacole could easily have been obtained; but were refused by Nizam Ali on any other terms. If the French should endeavour to form an alliance with him, they would have no great difficulty in securing grants in return for military assistance.

Batta has been reduced as low as possible, but can never be entirely abandoned, as officers and men cannot live in the field on their pay alone.

Will pay particular attention to orders in Company's letters of March 9 and 31. No more factories shall be ceded to the French

than those included by the Treaty. All their fortresses and buildings were destroyed long before the Treaty was signed. News from Bengal of success over Qasim Ali Khan. In regard to the expedition against Yusuf Khan, the difficulties of forming magazines of provisions and stores have rendered the event of the siege of Madura very doubtful. Monson has opened batteries for some time, but the weather may oblige him to raise the siege. In that case our troops will be cantoned in the 2 forts taken near Madura, and the siege will be renewed when the weather permits, by which time troops may be expected from Manilla, as well as the recruits by the *Pitt*. The men of His Majesty's regiments not inclined to enlist in the Company's service have been ordered by Lawrence to remain in cantonments to be ready to assist, so as not to render the army incapable of action by their recall. Enclose copy of a complimentary letter written by the Nawab to His Majesty, to be sent by Admiral Cornish, returning thanks for the squadron and troops sent to his help. The despatch of April 27, was received October 30 by the *British King*.

Regarding extracts from the letters of Sir Joseph Yorke, the Governor and Council of Colombo long ago protested against our embassy to the King of Kandy, of which a full report has already been given. It is gratifying to learn that the English conduct is justifiable. War between the Dutch and Kandy began long before that, and numerous messages were received from the King before one was sent to him; and further negotiations with the King were immediately stopped when it was perceived that the only terms he would offer were on condition of our assistance against the Dutch.

There was a violent storm on October 21 and 22. His Majesty's ships *Norfolk*, *Weymouth* and *America* put out to sea and returned the 24th, entirely dismasted and much damaged. Cornish proposes to sail with them to Trincomalee and thence to Europe.

Appended are lists of the packets (pp. 107—109).

DESPATCH FROM GEORGE PIGOT, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, NOVEMBER 12, 1763. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol. 24, pp. 84–85 (copy, 2 pp.).*]

Cite despatch of November 7 sent by His Majesty's ship *Norfolk*. The amount of the [*Plassey's*] invoice is 1,41,301 pagodas and the diamonds registered 68,254 pagodas. The balance in the Treasury is 8,426 Arcot rupees, 99,367 current pagodas, 2,908

Madras pagodas and 420 pagodas' worth of gold and silver, together with 20,000 pagodas in the cash chest. 'The war being concluded, a great part of the Nawab's debt discharged, the rest in a fair way of being so, a large addition made to your possessions on the Coast, and these brought to a state of as much security, as the precarious nature of Indian tenures can admit, Mr. Pigot purposes to return to England on the ship *Plassey*.' He returns his thanks for the honours and attention shown him by the Company.

Appended are: (1) letter to St. Helena dated November 12, 1763 (p. 86); (2) lists of the packets by the *Plassey* (pp. 87—94); (3) list of passengers, including George Pigot, Josias Dupré, James Alexander, James Wilson, Mrs. Amelia Vansittart, Miss Amelia Vansittart, and 6 servants (p. 95); (4) manifests of private trade amounting to 3,600 Arcot rupees, and 193 pagodas (p. 95); (5) register of diamonds (pp. 96—99); and (6) sailing orders dated November 14, to Captain James Ward of the *Plassey* (pp. 100–101).

DESPATCH FROM ROBERT PALK, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, MARCH 26, 764. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 24, *pp.* 102—111 (*copy*, 10 *pp.*).]

This goes by His Majesty's ship *Liverpool* which has called here on her way home from Bengal. The *Plassey* sailed November 14 with Pigot on board, and Palk has taken over the management of the Company's affairs. The *Deptford* is daily expected. The *Pitt*, having stayed some months at Brazil, did not arrive till January 6, with the Company's despatch of May 13. It was then too late for her to prosecute her voyage; and, having sprung her main-mast, it was necessary to send her to the Southward for repairs. She carried a detachment of military and a quantity of stores which were landed at Tondi about 50 miles from Madura. The mast having been repaired at Negapatam, she returned here on March 18 with bales from Cuddalore. Other shipping news. Since the last despatch it appears that only 3 cargoes can be provided in Bengal, so that 5 vessels remain to be provided for. The measures to be taken for their employment cannot yet be decided. On November 8, 10 vessels were lying at Canton almost provided with full cargoes by the supplies consigned last season from Madras and Bengal. But these supplies cannot be continued. They have 'drained our settlements' so that the exchange of rupees at Madras is now nominally 312 *per* 100 pagodas with scarcely a rupee to be had. All that can be sent this year is a

small number of rupees in the treasury, pepper brought from Sumatra, and some tin, cotton and redwood. In spite of the joint endeavours of all the settlements, many of the present year's ships must lie on hand, unless the Canton supracargoes are provided with supplies of treasure from Europe. They moreover expected to have to borrow about 60,000 taels, as the Manilla Council had detained 44 chests of treasure consigned to China. Every effort shall be made to promote this material branch of trade, 'but it is evident that the support of it must principally depend on supplies from Europe, for India is already drained of silver and does not afford commodities for a large investment to China.' It has already been reported that Dalrymple sailed by the *Neptune* July 4, in order to collect the goods contracted for at Sulu in 1762. The latest news from Canton is that he quitted the *Neptune* at Manilla to return to Sulu to collect the Company's debts amounting to 70,000 dollars, desiring a ship to be sent thither from Canton to receive the goods. The supracargoes however cannot spare a ship, and nothing can be determined until advices are received from Bengal and Manilla. There seem to be no prospects of carrying on this trade with advantage. Other shipping news. A full cargo of bales is in readiness for the *Deptford.* The merchants here have contracted for the present year's investment on the same terms as last year's.

It has already been reported from the Military department that a great number of villages were either excepted or omitted from the sanads for the countries granted by the Nawab. As it was found that several of them had been previously comprehended in the farms of those countries and no immediate explanation was possible, it was decided to let the countries for the remainder of the present year including all villages whether omitted or excepted as jaghir. They were accordingly let from October 16, 1763 to July 31, 1764, for 2,88,820 pagodas, including the amount of Pulicat customs 1,500 pagodas, and the village of Nemmali worth 600 pagodas, which has been given back to the Nawab at his earnest request, so that the net revenues will be 2,86,720 pagodas. The rents are payable in 7 instalments and each renter has been required to deposit 1/7th as an advance, so that on any renter making default of a payment, the farms can be at once re-let. It is considered that the rents are favourable, but considering the goodness of the harvest, no doubt is entertained of their collection.

The day after the *Plassey* sailed, Fairfield, the Import Warehousekeeper, reported that considerable frauds had been committed by the conicoplies employed under Dupré. A Committee was appointed which found that from the remains taken between November 15 and December 14, there was a deficiency of copper to the amount of 39,911 pagodas brought about by Subbarayan and Muttukumarappa having omitted to enter 570 candies which the purchasers had taken out, converting the money to their own use. Fairfield represented that although he was appointed to take charge on September 27, Dupré continued in the management until November 11 when the account remains was signed by Fairfield in reliance on Dupré's usual punctuality and his assurance that he had taken particular care. Fairfield, being in strictness personally answerable, has been required to give his obligation for the deficiency. He hopes that in the circumstances the Company may have some consideration for him, and he has been allowed to sign a bond recognising his responsibility for the deficiency of such part as remains unpaid when the Company's orders are received. On January 26, repayments by the conicoplies reduced the deficiencies to 19,121 pagodas and further sums have since been received from Muttukumarappa. The Committee of Enquiry consisted of Russel, Aldersey and Kelsal. Copies of the Consultations, etc., relating to this are sent in the packet. The Regulations now being made in the different employs will prevent such impositions in future.

On the departure of Pigot, Dupré and Alexander to England, John Smith, John Lewin Smith and John Call, were promoted to the Council. On the death of Heath January 18, George Stratton was called down from Vizagapatam to take his seat.

Enclose a copy of the letter from the Nawab proposing to clothe his sepoys in woollens. Musters of broadcloth and perpetuanoes were sent to him, and he desires the latter as being cheaper and lighter; the clothing is to be faced and turned up with broadcloth. As no perpetuanoes are in store, he must be supplied with cloth for the present. Each piece of perpetuanoes will make about 10 coats, so that he will require about 1,000 pieces a year. The colour should be chiefly blue, scarlet fine, and green, but some bales should be sent of all the other colours in order to distinguish the different battalions. The quantity may be increased as it will be recommended to him to clothe his lascars also in the same manner.

Bills are now drawn at 90 days' sight at 8 *s.* a pagoda, including £300 on account of a subscription raised for the Marine Society, amounting in all to £10,541 or 26,353 pagodas.

Appended is a list of the packet (p. 112).

DESPATCH FROM ROBERT PALK, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, MARCH 26/28, 1764. [*Military Despatches to England, Vol.* 3, *pp.* 109—125 (*copy*, 16½ *pp.*).]

As reported in despatch of November 7, it was found necessary to raise the siege of Madura, as the badness of the weather and the difficulty of passing the ditch exposed our small forces to the danger of losing all their stores. Monson has left Major Preston in command and returned to Madras on account of ill-health. The Councils of Bengal and Bombay have been requested to furnish all the assistance they can, and the utmost efforts have been used to collect stores for the renewal of the siege. The Bengal Council have replied that they cannot possibly spare any of the men sent from Madras whom they have incorporated with their own troops, but promised to send a detachment of 300 Europeans expected from Bombay. Eighty artillery and 30 infantry have already arrived on His Majesty's ships *York* and *Liverpool*, and the rest are expected by his Majesty's ships *Medway* and *Deptford*. The *Pitt* arrived January 7, and landed 250 military. Their treatment on board was satisfactory. Commissions have been given to Captain Fitzgerald and other officers as ordered. The *Pitt* has been employed along with other vessels and boats in carrying troops, artillery, stores, etc., for the siege from Madras to Tondi a seaport about 50 miles from Madura. It is hoped that a sufficient quantity of artillery and stores have now been collected. The troops received by the *Pitt* and such drafts as could be taken from Madras and the out-garrisons, have enabled the army to cut off the rebel's communication with the country. During the last siege, the army had been unable to intercept the supplies constantly passing into Madura. Now, we have been able to take possession of the country just when the corn was fit to be cut, so that no grain can be carried into Madura. When it was found that the siege had to be recommenced, Yusuf Khan sent his Vakil to Madras with a letter, offering to return to our allegiance, provided he was continued in the rentership of the countries. It was not clear whether this was inspired by fear or by the hope of delaying operations. The Vakil was immediately returned with a letter stating that nothing short of immediate surrender will entitle

Yusuf Khan to any favour. The engagement by Yusuf Khan of a number of straggling Frenchmen of whom there are not less than 1,500 in different parts of India. When our army returned again before Madura, Preston received an unsigned letter supposed to come from the Captain of Hussars at that place, offering to bring off his troops. In consequence of the steps taken by Preston, Captain Riquet with 2 other officers and 41 privates deserted Yusuf Khan under promise of receiving 8,000 pagodas to maintain his men till the arrival of the Commissaries. This is regarded as a fortunate circumstance. It will make Yusuf Khan distrust his other Europeans, and will perhaps prevent desertions from us. Major Campbell, at his own request, has taken the command which could not be refused as he is senior to Preston, although Preston's conduct has been entirely satisfactory. To prevent supplies from going into Madura, posts have been established round the town. The Poligars have come over to the Nawab's side, and the siege will be begun as soon as stores come in from Tondi. Should the Bombay detachment arrive in time, it will be sent down at once. A party ordered by the Bombay Council from Anjengo is expected to join in time. These forces should be sufficient to effect the speedy reduction of Madura. The present army consists of about 1,784 including Europeans and Coffrees, but of these about 200 will generally be in hospital. There only remain in the different garrisons invalids, pensioners, and men unfit for duty. Five thousand and five hundred sepoys are also employed on the expedition. Captain Tinker who commands His Majesty's ships in India, has offered to land the marines for any service required of them, but the Council are unwilling to send them into the field in consequence of the inconveniences arising when King's and Company's troops are employed together. However, Captain Clarke of the *Liverpool* has been requested to transfer his detachment to the *York* so that their assistance may be available if wanted, and the *Liverpool* will thus be able to take more of Monson's regiment who are to proceed home by her. When orders arrived for sending home King's regiments, there were so few Company's troops on the Coast that it was impossible immediately to put them in execution, for it would have been impossible to continue the siege or prevent Yusuf Khan from acquiring new territories. Lawrence therefore at the Council's request agreed to detain His Majesty's troops in India until the situation of affairs would allow of their departure. It is hoped

that this measure may be so represented to His Majesty that no blame may fall upon Lawrence. Every expedient has been used to engage men to take the Company's service. At first only 10 pagodas were offered for enlistment; but as it was known that £10 had been offered at Bombay, the same had to be offered here; but even then few would enlist. Many officers were willing to come into the service, but a difficulty arose by reason of His Majesty's commands to the contrary. However it was thought necessary to offer Captain's commissions to all lieutenants who could raise 50 men, the officers being promised a recommendation to His Majesty so that they may retain the benefit of their rank and their half-pay when they return home. This has succeeded up to expectation. Sixty-two non-commissioned officers and men from the artillery, 96 from the 79th regiment, 7 from the 84th, 69 from the 89th, and 412 from the 96th, or 646 in all (included in the 1,784 military at Madura as before mentioned). Nothing but the great need of Europeans could have induced the Council to adopt this measure. As there are now scarcely 50 men fit for duty at Madras who have not enlisted, it was thought advisable to discontinue the offer lest the officers from Manilla should expect the same terms, which would bring too many Captains into the service. Lieutenants Hooker and Madge of the 96th Regiment have received Captain's commissions for enlisting 50 men each. Lieutenant Kinlock who began to enlist before the orders were discontinued, is trying to complete his number. Lieutenant Bailey of the 89th enlisted 17 men. He with Lieutenants Maitland and Calvert of the 89th and Ensigns Painter and Gee of the 96th have come into Company's service with their rank in His Majesty's. Colley Lucas sent out as Surgeon for His Majesty's hospital has been admitted surgeon here and is now in the field. He desires that the Company may be requested to procure from His Majesty the benefit of his half-pay when he returns home.

The *Speedwell* arrived here from Manilla on March 22. On January 30 she had been despatched to 'Cappoloen' in the province of 'Tayabas,' with Goodlad, in the hope of persuading the Moors to assist our people at Manilla who were in a manner shut up by a considerable force under Don Anda. On February 6, she was driven off the Coast and was obliged to bear away for Malacca for want of provisions. Goodlad reports that on the arrival of the *Admiral Pocock* at Manilla with the Preliminary articles of Peace, every attempt was made to persuade the malcontents to cease

hostilities. The Definitive Treaty had not arrived at the time of her departure, so that our people did not think they could safely abandon the place without positive orders. It is still hoped that they will receive these orders in time to come away before the next season. They were in such lack of provisions as to be obliged to prepare to take the field to disperse Don Anda's party, consisting of 100 of our deserters, 100 Spaniards, 700 or 800 Mexican troops, and 2,000 to 3,000 Malays. The Manilla garrison did not exceed 400 Europeans and as many sepoys. The *Havannah*, *Cruttenden* and *Falmouth* had arrived there from China; and *Hawke* was expected. Two hundred Chinese have embarked on the first two for Sumatra, and Drake, etc., were endeavouring to persuade others to do the same.

On January 31, a French frigate, *l'Expedition* (Le Bruin, commander) arrived at Tranquebar from the Islands, despatched from Bourbon November 30 to De Petitval. No letters arrived by her, concerning the retrocession of the French factories. She apparently came to procure copies of papers saved when Pondichery was taken; and she returned, as soon as they were furnished, carrying Maudave and others recalled to France to assist in the enquiry into Lally's conduct. They expect to meet at Mauritius M. 'Laws,' the new Governor, and Father Larain, Extraordinary Councillor, coming with 10 or 12 ships to take possession of places on the Coast in June. A protest had already been delivered to Marchand, commander of the French troops in Madura, for their violation of the peace. De Petitval was furnished with a copy and desired, if he had sufficient power, to recall the French troops and in any case to endeavour to persuade them to conform to the Treaty. He replied that his only orders were to procure copies of papers, but that he would forward our protest to the Government of the Islands and to France. Marchand who commands the French in Madura and who admits having hoisted French colours January 1763, is the person taken prisoner by Captain Richard Smith near Devikottai in 1760 and permitted on account of his health to proceed to Negapatam on parole. He has never been exchanged. In consequence of this violation of his parole Major Campbell has been ordered to seize and send him hither, in case he should come out again with a flag of truce or otherwise fall into our power.

The delay in learning His Majesty's pleasure regarding the division of the prize effects of Pondichery, has occasioned great discontent among the troops, especially as the Squadron has already

divided what was in their Agent's hands. To stop their complaints and encourage them to act with spirit, the Agents of the army have been recommended to divide one half of the amount of prize effects in their hands.

On examining the sanads given for the Company's jaghir, it was found that many villages and places had been omitted or excluded, amounting in value to 40,000 pagodas a year. The Nawab was therefore informed that it had always been understood that the countries he should grant would be entire and unencumbered, and that the Council intended to offer them to rent without subjecting them to any reduction. He was therefore desired to make out new sanads for the countries including all places situated in them. No satisfactory answer has yet been received; but many petitions have come in requesting that the petitioners should be put in possession of their jaghirs; the only exceptions which have been made are the Pulicat customs amounting to 1,500 pagodas a year, and a village of 500 or 600 pagodas a year belonging to the Nawab's lady; for the rest, the Nawab has been requested to provide for them in some other way. When the Nawab comes to Madras after the expedition to Madura is over, it is hoped that this affair will be settled. The countries have been put up and let at rents which exceeded our expectations and perhaps their real value. As renters are looked upon as persons of consequence, men are often tempted to become farmers even at a disadvantage.

The old King of Tanjore died last December, not without suspicion of having been cut off by his son and his General Manoji. The Nawab was however advised to conceal his suspicions and to write to the new King pressing him to maintain his friendship with the Nawab and the Company, and to pay the 5 lakhs of rupees due last November. The Council also wrote to the same effect, but an answer was received describing the reduced state in which his father left his treasury. It is not expected that he will fulfil his father's obligations until Madura has been taken; but then the Council are convinced that he will rather keep his father's treaty than run any risk of the Nawab's and Company's hostility.

The Council are still very anxious to obtain from Nizam Ali the countires already offered them. Therefore the correspondence has been renewed; and Nizam Ali now states that he is very ready to make them ours on having a body of troops under a good officer to continue with him in the same manner as Bussy did.

As soon as the Madura expedition is finished, the possibility of doing so will be taken into most serious consideration. Not only would this greatly increase the Company's revenues but also prevent the French from obtaining these territories.

Letters from Negapatam report that the Dutch are collecting 5,000 Europeans to attack the King of Kandy, from whom an application for help has been received.

Desire that indent for small arms may be fully complied with, together with 5,000 additional stand of arms on the Nawab's account; few now remain in store owing to the quantities sent to him, Bengal and Manilla, as well as a large number expended here. Entrenching tools are also needed.

Cornish left for Trincomalee, November 9, with the *Norfolk*, *Weymouth*, and *America*. But the *Weymouth* having been much damaged in a gale, she and the *America* reached Anjengo, December 13 and 16, and proceeded at once to join Cornish who put into Cochin. He sailed for England with the *Norfolk*, *America* and *Chatham*, December 29. The *Weymouth* has proceeded to Bombay to refit, and the *Baleine* sailed for Europe.

Little has been done on th e fortifications as the Engineer has been otherwise engaged at Madura. The master-bricklayer is carrying on the new works to the south, having just begun the foundation of the south-west wing of the south tenaillon, the south-east wing being almost finished. The services of 2 or 3 bricklayers, strong, healthy and tractable, would save ten times their expense as the Engineer cannot be constantly over the bricklayers and coolies who go on slowly when there are no overseers.

Postscript dated March 28: It is feared that neither the *Panther* nor the *Revenge* has been able to make the passage to China; and in case no vessels have been appointed at Canton to bring the troops away,[1] and His Majesty's ship *Falmouth* proves too bad to be repaired, it has been resolved to send the *Pitt* to Manilla whence she can either proceed to China or return here with troops.

Appended is a list of the packet (p. 125).

DESPATCH FROM ROBERT PALK, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 4, 1764. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol. 24, pp.* 113-141 (*copy*, 29 *pp.*).]

Cite despatches of November 7 and 12, 1763 and March 26, 1764. This goes by the *Deptford* which arrived from Bengal laded for

[1] From Manilla.

Europe. The Fort William Council reports that they can lade only 3 ships to Europe this season, and proposes to employ the rest as follows—1 to Bombay with 200 tons of saltpetre; 1 to Madras with the remainder of the Bombay detachment and a supply of rice, and thence to Batavia to procure arrack, timber, etc., for the Company's use in Bengal; the third to China with cotton, lead and 2 lakhs of rupees, and the fourth to Mauritius to bring back to Fort Marlborough the Chinese families carried away thence. Instead of sending the *Pitt* to Canton with merchandise for that market, she has been sent to Manilla as she may be needed in withdrawing the troops. She carries tin for China to the value of 18,171 pagodas which will be forwarded by another vessel, should she be required as a transport. His Majesty's ship *Panther* arrived here from Batavia, April 5. Other shipping news. Loss of the *Winchelsea*, March 20, on the Long Sand off the mouth of the Ganges, by an unaccountable mistake of the pilot. The crew were with difficulty saved.

In January, 300 candies of fine and 330 of coarse copper sold at 83¾ and 84¼ pagodas *per* candy, respectively. This yields a profit on the invoice of about 27 *per cent.*, *i.e.*, about 10 *per cent.* more than the 400 candies sold in July last. Damaged cloth and remnants have been sold at outcry. 136 bales of woollens remaining will be nearly used up before the arrival of this year's consignments for clothing the military and sepoys. Every means will be taken to promote the sales of woollens. The Nawab's intention of clothing his sepoys in them should favour their vend. It appearing that the 500 bales of cloth sent to Bombay had really been intended for Bengal, 475 bales consigned to Bombay and 30 ordinary red consigned to Madras have been sent to Bengal instead. Nine hundred bales of cloth for Bombay still await shipment.

Endeavours are being made to procure merchandise suitable for China. A small quantity of silver imported from Pegu has been bought for that purpose. It is expected that the consignment to China from Madras may amount to £50,000, but it is doubted if this method of sending consignments to China can be continued without inducing private merchants, particularly the Armenians, to resort to other ports where they can trade with less interruption.[1] It had been hoped that the *Lord Clive* could have been despatched from Fort Marlborough to China with a suitable stock,

[1] The need of furnishing goods for the Canton market had necessitated an embargo on private exports, such as redwood.

but it now appears that they had not sufficient money for their own pepper investment.

In December, proposals were invited for the supply of current year's investment. Three proposals were received from new merchants for longcloth fine, ginghams, moorees, etc. Some of them were rather less than were paid last year. However, the offers were only for such articles as yield most profits and included neither longcloth, ordinary and middling, nor fine beteellas on which there is small profit. For these and other reasons it was considered that the new proposals offered no advantage and were more likely to debase the fabric than otherwise. The old merchants were then called in who declared that they had still considerable balances in the hands of the weavers and that these would be irrecoverable should they not continue to provide the Company's cloth. They promised their utmost endeavours to provide the investment satisfactorily on the same terms as last year. It is confidently believed that the goods cannot be provided at lower rates without injuring the quality. As it was also thought that a change of hands would affect the investment, the old merchants' offer was accepted. (Public Consultation, January 6.) The Cuddalore merchants were summoned to Madras to explain their failure to perform their contract. Calland has frequently represented that they consider themselves severely treated in regard to turned-out cloth. On examination, this appeared to be partly true. Calland has been ordered to take only 5 *per cent.* instead of 10 [as customs] on cloth that cannot be accepted at an abatement. The utmost endeavours shall be made to restore the southern investment to its condition before the troubles. The difficulties in the investment of Vizagapatam cannot so easily be explained. There have been but few disturbances of late, but although prices are higher than formerly, the cloths are remarkably inferior. The merchants represent that it is due to the full width now required. This is not thought an adequate excuse. There must be some other cause which the gentlemen there have been required to ascertain. The plain and flowered beteellas sent in 1756 were provided by the Chief of Ingeram and made at Uppada. The Chief and Council of Vizagapatam have been ordered to provide the quantity desired by the Company, if they can be procured at the same price as in 1756. The Bandarmalanka investment has turned out well, but the merchants complain that they lost considerably by last year's contract, and a letter from

Pybus suggests that they will not engage again on the same terms. The cloth of the Masulipatam chay goods has been good but the dye not bright enough.

As Engineer Call is still with the army before Madura, all that can be said of the fortifications is that they are being continued as described in his last advices. As the Washing-place at Chintadripet has become more convenient by an alteration in the course of the river, orders have been given to build a choultry there to lodge the Company's cloth. A new choultry will be built within the Bound-hedge to the north; and two old choultries rebuilt outside the Bound-hedge, to lodge cloth for the washers there, where most of the Company's cloths are bleached. Permission has been given to spend up to 500 pagodas in the repairs of the godowns, etc., at Vizagapatam.

The arrack and toddy farm at Madras has been sold for 10,900 pagodas a year to Muttukrishna for 2¼ years ending July 31, 1766, which is 5,200 pagodas a year more than last time. This man was concerned in the last farm under the name of Periya Tambi, and therefore must be acquainted with its value. As the rent is paid monthly, it can be taken out of his hands without much loss should he fail in his payments. The farm will be under the same restrictions as last time in order to prevent as much as possible the drunkenness among the military. The scarcity of grain in the beginning of 1763 continued to increase until the favourable harvest of this year and the large supplies of grain lately imported from the Northward. The duties on grain are now being collected as usual. Nalla Chetti, the farmer of the measuring duty has been allowed a sum of about 35 pagodas for his losses in consequence of the suspension of these duties. Muttukumarappa, renter of the Banksal farms, has been allowed 336 pagodas for the same reason, but still owes 145 pagodas on this head. This is the man concerned in the Import Warehouse fraud. In 1761, the farm was sold for 1,600 pagodas a year; but when it was again put up in April, no one would offer more than 500. It is now being managed on the Company's account until the reason for this extraordinary reduction has been ascertained. The Masulipatam farms have been re-let for one year at the same rate as last year, except the salt pans which were let before for 80,000 rupees, but for which no more than 70,000 rupees was offered, on account of the large quantities of salt unsold and the small demand from the inland countries. It being

thought that the farms would be improved by extending the terms from 1 year to 3 or 5 years, as thereby the renters would be able to make improvements in their cultivation, and a longer period would be afforded in which to settle with the inhabitants; it has been decided to re-let some of the Northern farms for five years and proposals have been invited. It is feared that the depredations of Sitaram Razu near Masulipatam may prejudice their sale. The salt and arrack farms at Vizagapatam have been re-let for two years at an increased rent. Translation of the Nawab's sanads and a particular account of the grants are entered in Consultation of December 1. Enquiries are being made into the titles of those who claimed jaghirs, and an attempt will be made to induce the Nawab to provide for the claimants in his own territories. Three of the jaghir renters have failed to pay their rents for February and March, which confirms the suspicion that they were raised beyond their true value by Venkatachalam, the Nawab's Brahminy, running them up in order to enhance the apparent value of the territories, and the eagerness of the renters who previously held them to continue in management in order to recover the balances of the last year. The balances outstanding are from Pushpanatha Nayanar for February and March kists for Utramallur, Salavakkam and Kavantandalam, 19,927 pagodas; from Muhammad Azim for the same period for Karunguli, 18,371 pagodas; and from Ayya Pillai for the same period for Covelong, 3,535 pagodas. Pushpanatha Nayanar has been detained for some time at Arcot by 'Meer Saut,' the Diwan, on account of demands for the countries which he held of the Nawab. He alleges this as a reason for his failure and is coming to Madras where he promises to do his best to pay the Company's arrears. Muhammad Azim says that he found difficulty in making collections from the inhabitants. As this is thought an evasion, a Tahsildar has been sent to assist in collecting the rents. Ayya Pillai makes the same excuse, but promises to pay in a few days. Some of the other March rents are still unpaid, but it is believed that the renters can clear them in a little time which is reasonable, as the farms were let higher than usual and the payments have been quicker and larger than usual in the first half of the term.

Regarding vacancies in Council, John Call and George Stratton have taken their seats. John Smith remains Chief of Vizagapatam. It has been decided to defer the appointment of a new Chief at Cuddalore until there are enough members at the Presidency to

attend properly to all the different employs. The defalcations in the Import Warehouse have now been reduced to 16,989 pagodas for which Fairfield's bond has been taken. William Barker, who succeeded Alexander as Sub-Accountant, representing that his health was injured by his close application to business for over eight years, has been permitted to succeed to Stratton's vacancy at Vizagapatam. Alexander Davidson has been appointed Sub-Accountant. James Taylor, factor, died at Chingleput, February 11; and Simon, writer, died of a sudden illness, April 27. Stracey who by much application has become proficient in Persian and is employed in translating the country correspondence, has been granted an allowance of 10 pagodas a month, as some reward for his assiduity and as an encouragement to others. The allowance is not considered adequate to the trouble, but no more is given for fear of incurring the Company's displeasure. Joseph Macdonald who was appointed a factor in Sumatra, died some months ago in Bengal. Barnard, a very promising youth, employed under the Engineer was killed at the siege of Madura. Desvoeux has been appointed an assistant. James Hamilton, writer, having also shown a capacity and disposition to act in the same branch, has also been appointed an assistant to Call. William Steevens arrived by the *Pitt*, and is stationed under the Engineer. He is reported to be a young man of a very promising genius.

When Colonel Monson announced his intention of returning home from Madras, with the other King's field officers, Lawrence represented the need of another field officer for the Company's troops, so a Major's commission was granted to Captain Donald Campbell, eldest captain on this establishment and esteemed an exceedingly good officer. Ensign Rogers of Captain Fitzgerald's company, on his representation that both Stopford and Willson who had been appointed Lieutenants in that company had remained in England, has been appointed to that lieutenancy on Lawrence's recommendation, on condition that should Willson hereafter come out, Rogers should return to his original rank of ensign. Other promotions will be found in Consultations of November 15, January 3 and 9, February 28, March 5 and April 9 and 17. Stephen Briggs has been appointed Surgeon in the room of James Wilson who went home on the *Plassey*.

In consequence of frequent robberies in the Black Town and at the Washing-places, the office of Poligar, which had been vacant since Pedda Nayakkan's death during the siege of Madras,

has been re-established; and his son Kunogree Angarappa Nayakkan has been appointed.

Chepperumal Chetti's contract to supply fanams at 41¼ *per* pagoda, which expired December 31, could not be renewed at a better rate than 40¼. This was thought too large a difference and Palk discussed the matter with Chepperumal Chetti and other shroffs; they declared that fanams were being melted down for re-coinage into rupees and Chepperumal Chetti offered to supply fanams at 41½ *per* pagoda if he were allowed to add 9 dwts. of alloy so as to make them 14 dwts. worse than English standard. The Council was unwilling to debase the coin, but the uncommon scarcity of silver rendered some step necessary to support the currency of the settlement. It was therefore decided not to lower the fineness, but to reduce the weight so as to make them turn out 42 fanams to a pagoda reckoning rupees at 320 *per* 100 pagodas or rather more than the current rate of exchange. It was found that the weight should be reduced from 16 grains to 14⅛. Chepperumal Chetti is supplying fanams on these terms. The Assaymaster Russell is particularly careful that the contract is being duly executed.

Forward duplicate of the account of the expenses on the French prisoners, brought down to February 29, and a calculate of the monthly charge of the prisoners now remaining; also a complete account of the subsistence allowed to the Spanish prisoners brought hither from Manilla in May 1763; and the hospital expenses of His Majesty's regiments and charges on account of the Squadron.

After some correspondence, the Mayor's Court has offered to pass a formal deed granting the Court-house to the Company; but regarding Jennings' legacy which they consider their undoubted property, they desire it should be left to the decision of 2 or more eminent counsel in England. Meanwhile they agree that the legacy should be deposited in the Company's cash. In consequence of the death of Abraham Brown, and the absence of Thomas Savage, Alexander Davidson and George Baker have been appointed Aldermen. Thomas Powney was chosen Mayor for the ensuing year; and Richard Brickenden Sheriff.

It was reported in the despatch of April 17, 1762 that Major Scott had repaid the advances made him on account of His Majesty's 89th Regiment, the question of interest thereon being referred to England for settlement. Since then further sums have

been advanced, and 9,000 pagodas remain due. When this was demanded of Major Munro at Bombay, he declined payment. The account current with vouchers is now forwarded, so that the Company may recover the amount in England. Colonel Monson has discharged the advances made on account of the 96th Regiment amounting to 11,503 pagodas. In consequence of the King's orders, Colonel Monson goes home on this ship with 9 officers and 30 men. Captain Tryon reports that in Europe the Company supplies each person sent out with a hammock and a quantity of liquor, and that according to charterparty passage money is to be paid at the time when each passenger is ordered on board. He was informed that passage money to His Majesty's troops was to be paid in England and desired to provide hammocks and liquors in the same manner as for his ship's company, the charge of which would be settled at home. Lieutenant Crabb of the 84th Regiment with some others proceeds on the *Deptford.*

Supplement: On opening the box of Divinity books sent out last year by the *Lord Clive*, they were found to be destroyed by vermin. It is desired that they may be replaced by those specified in the indent now sent. Shipping news. The Canton supracargoes have drawn upon Madras for about 10,000 pagodas. It is wished that they could have drawn for larger sums as cash cannot be sent. The purchase of rupees would at present involve loss. They are 310 rupees for 100 pagodas and 310 rupees will not sell in China for more than 100 taels.

A letter has been received from Dalrymple at Manilla, October 10, reporting that when he found that the Dutch were endeavouring to ally themselves with the people of Sulu, he thought it necessary to obtain a grant of the southern part of Palawan and the northern part of Borneo, with all intermediate islands, as commanding the navigation of those seas. He intended to return to Sulu to await the arrival of a ship from the Coast. One of the China ships will be ordered there this season. In spite of all Dalrymple's endeavours, the Sulu trade is too trifling and liable to too many accidents to be continued. A great part of the Sulu goods sold in China at less than prime cost. Lewin Smith and Henry Brooke have returned from Manilla by way of Canton. Smith is still too unwell to take his seat in Council. Hollond has also returned to Madras from China.

Although the number of small arms indented for may appear large, it is not larger than necessary, especially as the Bengal

Council have lately written for 2,000 stands. The *Deptford* carries home a small quantity of saltpetre and redwood as surplus tonnage at half freight. A bill for £25-17-6 being the extraordinary charges on account of the military brought out from England on the *Pitt*, is returned home for settlement. The attorney of Captain Morrison, Paymaster of the 89th Regiment, has declined to pay the balance of 9,000 pagodas as he has neither funds nor orders for that purpose. The invoice by the *Deptford* amounts to 1,97,293 pagodas, and the diamonds, etc., registered 1,28,493 pagodas. The balance in the Treasury is 9,364 Arcot rupees, 61,335 current pagodas, 3,567 Madras pagodas, 550 pagodas' worth of gold and silver, 10,000 Bombay rupees, and 2,066 Spanish dollars; and in the cash chest 31,194 pagodas.

Postscript: Bills are drawn at 8 *s. per* pagoda at 90 days' sight for 12,755 pagodas or £5,102.

Appended are: (1) lists of the packet (pp. 143-151); (2) list of passengers including the names of Colonel George Monson, Captains Albert Jones and Christopher Nesham, Lieutenants Archibald Leighton, Prendergrast, Phillips and Turner, Ensigns Sharp and Thomas and Surgeon Drew, all of the 96th Regiment; Lieutenant Crabb of the 84th Regiment, Richard Powney, Rebecca Franco, Esther Franco, John Dennison, William Herbert, Alexander Anderson, William Lamphire and William Brown (pp. 151-152); (3) manifest of presents and private trade (pp. 152-153); (4) register of diamonds, etc. (pp. 154—161); and (5) sailing orders to Captain William Tryon (pp. 161—163).

DESPATCH FROM ROBERT PALK, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 4, 1764. [*Military Despatches to England, Vol.* 3, *pp.* 126—133 (*copy*, 8 *pp.*).]

While the army lay before Madura waiting for reinforcements from Bengal and Bombay, Preston was detached with a considerable force into the Tinnevelly country great part of which he has reduced. Most of the poligars of that and the Madura countries have come over to the Nawab's interest. Palamcottah remains in the rebel's possession as an attempt to reduce it might delay the siege of Madura. Leaving a body of troops for the protection of those parts, Preston returned with the rest to Madura. Owing to a general meeting of troops in Bengal, the detachment coming to Madras had to be disembarked, and no assistance could be expected thence, but 200 men are expected by a country ship from Bombay, to be landed at Karikal. When they arrive, Major

Campbell shall have as many men as can possibly be collected, and it is hoped that he will then be able to bring this tedious and expensive expedition to an end. In consequence of the failure of assistance from Bengal, and the departure for England of part of Monson's regiment doing duty here, it has been found necessary to land the marines, especially as Captain Cowel was proceeding immediately to Trincomalee with the *York* and *Panther*, to return in 2 months' time. As all our troops are employed on the expedition, the cost of bringing the marines on shore and of the lascars sent aboard His Majesty's shipping, is being charged to the Nawab's account. By the *Panther*, we learn that the *Revenge* having lost her passage, put into Batavia whence she sailed to Manilla December 13; and the *Glatton* and *Pocock* arrived there February 1. The promotion of three lieutenants of Monson's regiment as captains for recruiting services, gave great disgust to several lieutenants—John Bridger, George Buck, Arnold Hunterman, Francis Swain Ward, and Robert Phillips, who resigned their commissions. Even if their complaints had been just, it would have been unpardonable on their part to quit the army in the face of the enemy. Lieutenants Bridger, Hunterman, Ward and Phillips, were among the officers at Trichinopoly who in 1763 demanded half batta or immediate relief, when Captain Richard Black was dismissed as the oldest officer who signed the protest. Buck was one of the ensigns who in July 1760 refused to do duty with Lieutenant Roberts sent from Bombay, and was then dismissed. Such repeated misbehaviour merits the severest treatment. These officers cannot be sent by the *Deptford* as she is too full. Trust that the Company will carefully prevent their return to India. Several of the privates of His Majesty's regiment are willing to enlist for service in Bengal or Bombay. Most of those who entered with Captain Kinlock desired leave to proceed to Bengal which they will do by the first opportunity. Large supplies of men are needed. The whole of the Company's troops are before Madura, and their numbers will be much lessened before the place is reduced. The French are expected in June or July, probably with a considerable number of men, besides those already in India. Nothing but a superiority on our side will prevent them from giving the English all the disturbance they can. The Bengal Council desired that their recruits should be sent on without delay. This shall certainly be done if their situation still demands and ours permits it. Have just received a letter from the Nawab enclosing

one addressed to His Majesty which he desires may be delivered by Colonel Monson. It arrived too late for the impropriety of delivering it by a private hand to be represented to him, but this shall be prevented in future. Copy of the letter is enclosed. Are returning five invalids who arrived only last year. It is desirable to send such people home, as, when capable of no other service, they generally employ themselves in selling strong liquors or otherwise debauching the garrison, besides being a continual expense. Many such men are here for whom passages will be provided as soon as possible, although they are almost so helpless that they may starve in England unless means are provided for their maintenance. News of the prospective attack on Bengal by the Nawab Wazir. Have immediately embarked for Bengal part of the men recruited.

Postscript: Enclose a letter from Drake at Manilla.

Appended are lists of the packets, etc. (pp. 133–134).

DESPATCH FROM ROBERT PALK, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 14, 1764. [*Public Despatches to England. Vol.* 24, *pp.* 163—170 (*copy*, 8 *pp.*).]

The *Deptford* sailed May 6. His Majesty's ships *Weymouth*, *Panther* and *Seaford* are now returning to England. Acknowledge the receipt of despatches from the Company of February 9, received by the *Northumberland* on July 2. But the despatch of December 30 by the *Worcester*, *Caernarvon*, and *Devonshire*, has not yet arrived. Other shipping news. The *Plassey*, a country ship in the Company's service, is to be sold in Bengal as she is an expensive vessel in bad condition. The *Speedwell* snow was sold by public auction for 2,020 pagodas, which is considered her full value. The failure to send out treasure to China this season is much regretted, as it is feared that the supplies from India will fall short of the requirements of the China trade ; goods provided are expected to amount to about 1,32,000 pagodas and treasure to upwards of two lakhs of rupees. It is intended to purchase for the China consignment a considerable quantity of private silver expected from Europe. Both Fort Marlborough and Manilla have drawn largely on Madras but both expect to be able to make some remittances to China. Since the last despatch, Pybus has with great difficulties induced the Bandarmalanka merchants to contract for the investment on the terms of last year. John Lewin Smith has been appointed Chief of Cuddalore ; James Hamilton, writer, was lately killed at the siege of Madura. The offers received

for the Masulipatam farms for a term of five years were in general no higher than the rents obtained last year, the bidders being discouraged by Sitaram Razu's disturbances. The farms were let for one year at slightly more than last year, but it is hoped that at the next sale, the country will be quiet enough to permit the term being prolonged. Since the last despatch, it has been necessary to appoint Tahsildars in the countries of Utramallur, Salavakkam and Kavantandalam rented by Pushpanatha Nayanar; in the two Conjeeverams, Chingleput and the Seven Maganams rented by Vrushabhanatha Nayanar; and in Covelong rented by Ayya Pillai. When Pushpanatha Nayanar arrived from Arcot he represented that Mir Asad, after extorting more than was justly due under pretence of continuing him in the management, suddenly took the farms out of his hands, seized his effects and imprisoned him and his whole family, which rendered the payment of his arrears to the Company impossible. No answer has been received to the letters written to the Nawab on this subject, but it is thought that Pushpanatha Nayanar was too much in debt to have maintained his credit much longer in any case. Vrushabhanatha Nayanar has paid in most of his rents, but as he began to fail latterly, Tahsildars have been appointed for his farms also. The deficits of the rents cannot be estimated until the Tahsildars have finished examining the accounts and collected the sums due from the inhabitants. The deficit on Vrushabhanatha Nayanar's farms is not expected to be considerable and none is likely on the Covelong farms. There may be a considerable loss owing to several of the farms having been let too high; but the Council thinks that their full value will be secured. The renter of Tirupasur has lost upwards of 10,000 pagodas; the renter of Karunguli much more; and most of the others have been losers. A Tahsildar has been appointed to assist in collecting the Poonamallee rent which was also in the hands of Pushpanatha Nayanar. The country is in a good state and is expected to answer the arrears. The betel and tobacco farm which was also in Pushpanatha Nayanar's hands has been much reduced in value by the damage done to the betel and tobacco plantations by the storm of last October. A manager has been appointed until it can be rented out again. As letting out countries at public outcry induces ambitious people to over-estimate their value to the injury of themselves and the Company, it is intended in future to advertise for sealed proposals and grant the farms to

the most substantial men. Meanwhile efforts will be made to obtain a just account of their value as a basis of the rent which may be taken with safety. The tanks in every farm having been neglected for many years, a survey has been taken of the repairs and expense necessary with a view to putting them in good order, which will soon add to the value of the farms.

Postscript: Certificates and bills of exchange have been granted at 8 *s.* a pagoda at 90 days' sight for £3,886 or 9,717 pagodas including £98 on account of the estate of John Simon, late writer.

DESPATCH FROM ROBERT PALK, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 14, 1764. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 24, *p.* 170 (*copy* ½ *p.*).]

Report arrival of the *Worcester* with the Company's despatch of December 30, 1763.

DESPATCH FROM ROBERT PALK, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 14, 1764. [*Military Despatches to England, Vol.* 3, *pp.* 135—143 (*copy*, 9 *pp.*).]

This goes by the *Weymouth*. Before the end of May, most of the redoubts and out-works in Madura were either taken or abandoned. The approaches are being vigorously pushed on, so that a speedy reduction of the place is hoped for. Batteries were opened June 11; advanced to the crest of the glacis 20th and made several good breaches. The place was to have been assaulted on the 23rd morning, but owing to heavy rains it was deferred. It was then decided to make a lodgment in the angle of the bastion, so that the assault might be less dangerous and costly, but heavy losses prevented the attempt succeeding, and a general assault was made June 26. Although several breaches were practicable and 500 yards of fausse bray entirely demolished, yet the rains had rendered the ditch so full of water as to be difficult to cross, and arms and ammunition got wet. The enemy had time to prepare for an assault, and after an hour's fight, our force had to retire with a loss of about 120 Europeans killed and wounded, besides many slightly hurt; 3 officers killed and 8 wounded; among the latter was Captain Preston but not dangerously. The fall of Madura by the end of June was so confidently anticipated that Captain Collins of His Majesty's ship *Weymouth* was requested to defer sailing for a few days to bring the news. No measure has been or shall be omitted which can bring about success.

Madras and all the out-garrisons have been so entirely drained of men and stores that although the Commandant at Madura still considers that he has men enough to make another attempt, yet it is thought inadvisable to risk another repulse. It has therefore been decided to reduce the place by a close blockade, although the quantity of provisions in Madura fort is not definitely known. Attack of Oudh on Bengal. The men of the 79th regiment, waiting for a passage to Europe, have been sent up to Bengal to give the Government there an opportunity of enlisting men from among them. By the *Northumberland* which arrived July 2. despatch of February 9, was received. Of 101 recruits embarked on her, 3 were discharged in the river; 11 died in the passage; the remainder were landed here. Twenty of these and 17 recruits from the Royal Artillery and the 79th regiment for Bengal, have been sent thither. Are much concerned that the measures taken for withdrawing troops from Manilla have been unsuccessful. The *Revenge* did not reach Manilla till March 8, so that the arrival at Canton of ships sent *via* Manilla is very doubtful. The *Seaford* arrived from Manilla June 24, with 55 of the King's and Company's troops; about 1,400 men including sepoys are still to be brought away. All the Company's troops are to embark on the *Admiral Pocock*, *Revenge* and *London*; but Captain Backhouse refusing to divide the King's regiment, the whole have had to await an opportunity of proceeding together. Captain Brereton determined to proceed to Canton with his own ship and the *Siam* to refit, returning in the fair season to call for His Majesty's regiment. Scarcely know when the Manilla garrison may be expected. The *Northumberland* will be despatched with Spanish prisoners on board, to call at Manilla on her way to Canton, and take on board any troops still remaining. From Canton, they can be sent either to England or back to India as may be necessary. Other provisional arrangements. Have already sent copy of a letter from Drake regarding the conduct of Major Fell. Now send extract of a letter from Drake, etc., and copies of depositions transmitted to Lawrence by Drake and of those taken here. The Council were anxious for an enquiry to be held here. But Lawrence considered it too difficult as Major Fell's witnesses were not on the spot and some had gone to England. Lawrence has therefore sent him home, and is transmitting copies of depositions to the Secretary at War. The Major has applied for an allowance from the time he left Manilla, but his services have not been commendable enough to merit reward. Another field

officer being absolutely necessary in camp, Captain Wood has, on Lawrence's recommendation, received a Major's Brevet. It is fortunate that this promotion is agreeable to the Company's sentiment of Wood's merit. Captain de Beck was by seniority next in rank for promotion and has always behaved to our satisfaction; but he was passed over, as being a foreigner under whom it is well-known that Englishmen will not serve with full alacrity and spirit. May 31, a French country ship from the Islands arrived at Negapatam with news that 4 ships were lading with merchandise and timber for the Coast, but could not sail until the arrival of some of their Europe ships. Tiernay and Hunter, carried prisoners from the West Coast to the Islands, have delivered in a letter regarding their treatment. Although the French are not likely to appear on the Coast this season, steps are being taken to ascertain the exact limits of their factories prior to their cession. Since writing the foregoing, have received the despatch by the *Worcester* which arrived this morning. As His Majesty's ships are sailing immediately, no other reply can now be made than that the Company's commands shall be punctually obeyed.

Appended are lists of the packets (pp. 144—146).

DESPATCH FROM ROBERT PALK, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 16, 1764. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol. 24, p.* 171 (*copy*, 1 *p.*).]

His Majesty's ships *Panther* and *Seaford* sailed for England yesterday. Report the arrival of the *Lord Hollond, Middlesex* and *Pigot*. These English vessels on putting into Mauritius on their way out were refused refreshments on the ground that the Island had been entirely exhausted by the late war and that a large squadron was daily expected. The French seemed very jealous and permitted none but commanders to go ashore and even they had to return at night.

Appended are lists of packets (pp. 172—174).

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO ROBERT PALK, ETC. LONDON, DECEMBER 30, 1763. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 67, *pp.* 25—78 (*original*, 54 *pp.*); *a duplicate copy in Military Despatches from England, Vol.* 3, *pp.* 1—48.]

Cite despatches of April 27 and May 13; and also Secretary's letter, dated May 16, enclosing Halifax's letter of May 13, regarding the Dutch armament, said to be preparing for the East Indies. Acknowledge the receipt by His Majesty's ship, the *Sea Horse*, of

separate despatch, dated August 2, 1762, Lawrence's letter, dated July 31, and the Manilla Council's despatch, dated November 10; by the *Fox*, general and separate despatches of November 9, Pigot's letter of the 8th and Lawrence's letter of October 31; by the *Essex* and *Albion*, the Manilla Council's despatches of December 25, 1762 and March 1 and 2, 1763; and by the *Clinton*, Madras despatches of May 30 and 31, 1763.

Arrival of shipping. Report the capture of the *Walpole*, outward bound, off Ceylon in September 1762, and the loss of the *Elizabeth* by fire in the mouth of the Canton river in January last. The Tellicherry Council sent off one Taylor with a letter for Captain Tinker of His Majesty's ship the *Medway*; but Taylor got aboard the *Expedition* a French frigate instead, by which means M. Palliere having learnt the news that Cornish's fleet had sailed for Manilla, was able with 3 French men-of-war, to cruize a month off Balasore, thus endangering the Bengal shipping. Every caution should be taken to prevent letters of consequence from falling into improper hands. Have taken up for this season 19 vessels, of which 4 (the *Caernarvon*, *Devonshire*, *Vansittart* and *Duke of Albany*) are for Madeira, the Coast and Bay, and 5 (the *Duke of Gloucester*, *Worcester*, *Lord Hollond*, *Earl of Lincoln*, and *Northumberland*) are for the Coast and China. Directions regarding the disposal of the China shipping. As the four Coast and Bay ships will not be sufficient to bring home the Coast and Bay investments, two or three of the Bombay ships will proceed round to be laded home from Calcutta or Madras. Now that peace is made, freight and demurrage have been reduced as will be seen from the charterparty [missing]. Supracargoes for China. The Coast and Bay ships carry only half iron kintlage. A sufficient quantity of saltpetre must therefore be laded on each ship. The usual instructions regarding the prompt despatch of China ships. No ship of this season is permitted to call at Batavia on the way to China. Repeat former orders to arrange with the other presidencies for providing cargoes for the returning shipping. Ships for the West Coast and the employment of the *Admiral Watson*. Officers and crew have received two months' pay by way of impress, and their attorney in England will have one month's wages in every six until their return, these being the customary terms. No advances are to be made on account of wages, unless she remains in India two seasons extraordinary. It is to be observed as a standing rule that all vacancies in the command of

the Company's own ships are only to be filled up provisionally, and an impartial account of the person appointed is to be sent home, so that the Company may confirm or replace him in the command. Captain Reynolds who resigned the command of the *Prince Henry* at Fort Marlborough is to return to England. Martin Biggleston, third mate of the *Earl Temple*, who deserted at Madras, is also to be sent home; as also John Smith, late chief mate of that ship, who escaped from his confinement at Fort Marlborough, 'as a man of his infamous character ought by no means to have the benefit of the Company's protection.' Complain of the omission to send registers of the private trade on Europe ships. In future, Europe ships will no longer be furnished with commissions authorizing them to seize and send to England persons living in the East Indies contrary to the several Acts of Parliament, as the only effect of such commissions has been that commanders have taken advantage of them to seize men aboard country traders under the pretence of completing their ships' complements. Governors and Councils already have sufficient authority to send home unlicensed persons whose conduct is prejudicial to the Company. Complain of the neglect to send proper accounts of the transactions with the Company's freighted ships. As the *Fox* was too late to proceed to China, and as there was no other to send home with the Madras bales and despatches, her employment for that purpose is approved; but the destination of ships should never be altered without good reason. Desire to know why the *Earl Temple* was unable to proceed from Malacca to China as ordered by the Madras Council. Approve of the appointment of George Baker, late Commander of the *London* packet, as Master Attendant on a salary of £100 a year with allowances for diet at 8 pagodas and house-rent at 10 pagodas a month. A report is to be made of the advantages derived from the new appointment. Captain Baker's proposals for the management of masula boats, etc. (Consultation, October 5, 1762), give a favourable idea of his ability. As the *Osterley* had lost her passage to China, her employment on a voyage to Bengal until she could be despatched to China, was correct. It was unwise to send so large a vessel as the *Royal Captain* to call at Sulu on her way to China, as she was in danger of being lost in these insufficiently known passages. Only small ships should be sent thither till the tract is better known. Although Dalrymple's voyage to Sulu was upset by the *Royal Captain's* failure to meet him there, the result of his next voyage should discover the real consequence of

that trade. The Council is to procure information about the treaty made by the Deputy Governor, etc., at Manilla with two persons—one styling himself King of Sulu who had been a prisoner many years in Manilla, and the other his son. It is observed that the cargo received from Sulu and sent on to China sold at 30 *per cent.* loss on the invoice price.

The exports to India are as follows:—981 bales of cloth, 150 of long ells, 4 of sundry piece-goods, 100 tons of lead, 70 of copper, 100 of iron, 5 of steel, 200 whole and 400 half-barrels of gunpowder, 10 tons of grain tin in caps and 125 pipes of Madeira wine for Madras; 1,120 bales of cloth, 50 of long ells, 3 of sundry piece-goods, 100 tons of lead, 130 of copper, 100 of iron, 20 of tin, 106 of cordage, 500 barrels of gunpowder and 125 pipes of wine for Bengal; 1,766 bales of cloth, 420 of long ells, 8 of sundry piece-goods, 100 tons of lead, 250 of copper, 100 of iron, 10 of steel, 65 of tin, 200 barrels of gunpowder and 50 pipes of wine, for Bombay; 660 bales of cloth and 300 of long ells for Persia; 40 bales of cloth and 70 of long ells for Sindh; 50 tons of tin, 5 of steel, 10 of tin, 100 casks of flour, 100 half-hogsheads, beef and pork, 100 barrels of gunpowder, 70 tons of cordage, 37 tons of anchors, grapnels, shot, and iron-mongers' wares and 15 caldron coals, for Sumatra; and 596 bales of cloth, 9 small bales of superfine cloth for the Emperor, 600 bales of long ells, 20 of camblets, 1,100 tons of lead, and 5 of grain tin in caps for China. The indent for stores necessary will be complied with as far as tonnage, etc., permit. The Madeira sent up this year was provided and has been in warehouse ever since 1762. It should therefore prove of better quality. Approve the issue of 62 pipes for the Manilla expedition and Fort Marlborough in equal shares from the Coast and Bay consignments. The Government stores consist of about 128 tons of beef and pork, half on the Coast and China ships and half on the Bombay ships. This year are sending only 40 chests of treasure and that only to Fort Marlborough, on the presumption that Madras and Bengal will be able to provide not only for their own expenditure, and for their investments, but also supplies for the China trade, Bombay and Fort Marlborough. The whole China investment is reckoned at £3,30,000 at least for 11 ships, *i.e.*, £30,000 per ship; and the supracargoes should have at least £1,00,000 in hand to make purchases for the following season. The exports sent to China this season amount to £82,700, of which £64,000 is in woollen goods which may not be sold in time to provide

for any part of this season's investment. The presidency of Fort Marlborough will need continual assistance and is to be supplied with all that is required. Out of the 40 chests sent thither, 10 are designed 'to form a bank to assist our servants there in their present low circumstances to trade with by way of loan on a reasonable consideration.' Approve of the stock provided for the ships of China in 1762 amounting to 17 lakhs of rupees, and rely on the continuance of these efforts. It was a great disappointment to find that the Deputy Governor and Council of Manilla were obliged to make use of a lakh of rupees intended for China, and to provide consignments only to the amount of 54,000 dollars, and that in plate. In spite of the difficulty of providing silver for China, rely upon the Council's efforts, which should be more successful as the Peace will reopen the Manilla trade. Observe that the woollen goods sold by outcry in December at a better price than usual as the quantity was small, the consignment by the *Walpole* not having arrived. Public, free and open sale seems to be most eligible method. Entirely approve Council's consulting the Bengal presidency as to whether the surplus stock of copper could be disposed of there. This season only 70 tons are sent; but the sales of this article should, if possible, be extended; the Company desires only a reasonable profit. Although large quantities of copper remained on hand, yet the last indent was the same as the previous ones, as if the preparation of indents were a matter of form without consideration. The account remains must be more detailed. A particular account should be furnished of the sale of the 10 tons of the tin now sent. Are also sending 5 tons to China as perhaps the Chinese preference for Malacca tin is only a matter of custom. This season 400 half-barrels and 200 whole barrels of gunpowder are sent, of which 100 barrels are intended for Bengal. Twenty light iron twelve-pounders will be sent this season. The founder has been ordered to make the trunnions 5 inches in diameter. Four brass twelve-pounders, 6 six-pounders, 2 brass ten-inch mortars and 3 eight-inch will also be sent, if ready, this season. Light iron or brass 24-pounders have never been used in His Majesty's service, nor can such large field-pieces be of much use in India. According to the Select Committee's request, the brass guns and mortars are not being made by Bowen. The furniture for the garden-house will not be provided till next year, when a more exact description of the sizes of the looking-glasses, etc., may be furnished.

Enclose the list of the investment. Usual directions regarding saltpetre. The Bengal invoice of goods laden on the *Warren* was not sent, but only an abstract of the particulars. The failure of the attempt to provide the investment without advances must be accepted especially as the cloth provided will be better; and precautions have been taken against the merchants' insolvency, so that the Company will be little liable to loss. The cargo of the *Fox*, both from Madras and Cuddalore, is better than the Coast goods received of late years. There will be need for great care regarding advances, not only at Madras, but also at the other settlements. It is observed that the Madras Council considered that Heath had not taken sufficient pains over the Vizagapatam investment, while he laid the blame on the obstinacy of the merchants. Measures should be taken to prevent the like in the future. Any good conduct on the part of the Company's servants should be pointed out as well as the bad. The Company approves the Council's reference to Turner's good management at Cuddalore. The 152 bales of private merchants' and turned-out cloths received at not less than the Company's usual rates, sold almost as well as the other goods. An explanation is desired as to why this cloth should have been turned out at all. Any cloth of full measurement may be taken at a suitable abatement for defects in quality, especially when goods are needed to fill up the shipping. The *Clinton* is too recently arrived for any opinion to be formed of her cargo. As the chay goods provided at Masulipatam were better and cheaper than of late years, the provision of a greater quantity of them than ordered in the list of investment, as well as of 800 pieces of allejars, is approved. The increase of 1 pagoda a corge on longcloth ordinary is approved, if the fabric is to be bettered thereby. The agreement with the Cuddalore merchants to bring in their cloth part by August 31 and the remainder by January 31, will facilitate the despatch of shipping. Patterns of chintz shall be sent annually with a view to improve that article. The attempt to establish a proper fabric of moorees and longcloth fine at Bandarmalanka is approved, as well as the directions to each subordinacy to provide a small quantity of any goods thought fit for the Europe market. No opinion has been formed of the flowered Vizagapatam beteellas. Regarding the 33 bales of chintz and lampasses provided by private persons for the Manilla market at the time of the expedition, but which could not be sold there or elsewhere, the Company will take them as they have been sent; but

the Council must remember that no merchandise be allowed to be brought from India to England, save on the Company's account, except what the ship's officers are allowed to bring. The rate at which these goods will be paid for cannot yet be determined. Consider in general that the quantity of goods sent home by the *Fox* and *Clinton* is as large as could be expected, and that care has been shown with respect to their provision.

Public and private intelligence indicates that the French East India Company is unable to carry on its trade and likely to be dissolved. In that cese, it is expected that individuals will be allowed to trade to Bourbon, Mauritius and China, and perhaps a few ships from France may sail to the other parts of India on condition of paying an 'Indulto' to the King, their other settlements and trade to Asia being entirely renounced. Few ships are expected to sail from France to India this season; and it will probably be long before their trade and power again become important in India. Proceedings in the Dutch negotiations. The Dutch ambassador declares that no more men will be sent to the Dutch East Indies this year than are necessary to complete their corps in India. The Madras Council should make application to the Viceroy at Goa in order to secure good usage for English supracargoes at Macao.

Are much surprised to learn that it will take 50,000 pagodas a year for eight years to complete the design of fortifying Fort St. George. If the time and expense can be lessened by reducing the present plan consistently with keeping Madras in a respectable condition, it will be well, as mercantile concerns have long languished for want of funds. Call will doubtless be ready to concur in any measures which he regards as feasible and safe. His opinion that fortifications need not be erected elsewhere on the Coast is gratifying to the Company. The Council are to consider whether it is really necessary to rebuild the old bastions round Cuddalore in order to make it defensible against the Marathas or other country troops. Call says that this can be done cheaply, as bricks can be had on the spot or obtained from the ruins at Fort St. David. For the present, nothing more need be done at Masulipatam than what is necessary for a mercantile residence; and commercial buildings may be erected at Bandarmalanka. Paul Benfield has been appointed civil architect and assistant engineer at Madras. He has been regularly bred an architect, surveyor and draughtsman, and is said to have good knowledge

of fortifications and mathematics. He will receive pay as assistant engineer with rank as Lieutenant, with permission to undertake private business as a civil architect, not inconsistent with his duty to the Company. Call should be consulted as to whether Benfield may be of more use at Madras or at Calcutta. Samuel Roberts has been appointed practitioner engineer at Madras. Assistance is to be afforded to Fort Marlborough by a supply of workmen, as those sent from Bengal proved useless.

As the bidders for the Masulipatam revenue farms were not responsible persons, the re-appointment of the late renters is approved. The account given of Basavappa Chetti shows the importance of knowing the characters of persons offering to rent farms. The revenues, including those of Masulipatam, amount to £1,30,700, but the heavy expenses at Madras render it necessary to put the revenues upon the best footing, and to reduce expenditure wherever possible. The suspension of grain duties during scarcity is approved.

Have appointed writers James Taylor, James Hodges, Henry Eden, George Westcott, Hector Mackay, and Edward Froud. Mackay is already a free merchant at Fort St. George. Thomas Davis and George Mainwaring Kinderdine are permitted to proceed to any settlement in India, and may be employed as surgeons on any vacancy. Both are well recommended. It is presumed that Pigot is now on his way to England, 'where we hope soon to have the pleasure of acknowledging his distinguished services.' Pybus is a very able servant, but he should not have held at once five different posts, viz., Storekeeper, Military Storekeeper, Land Customer, Rental-General and Assaymaster. It is well that this has been ended by his appointment as Chief of Masulipatam.

One thousand and two hundred recruits were sent out last season of whom nearly 400 were for Madras and Bengal. This season as many will be sent as the shipping can take in, *i.e.*, about 880 on the Coast and Bay and Coast and China ships and 600 on the Bombay ships. 230 will be sent to Fort Marlborough. Next season, a similar number will be sent out, as too great confidence cannot be placed on any large recruitment from the King's regiments. It is not intended that the 1,400 men sent to Bombay last season and this are to remain there. As many as possible should be sent round to Madras. Lists of the cadets of this season are sent separately. The military establishment at Madras has been fixed

so as to maintain a respectable force without extravagant expense. It is to consist of 2,600 Europeans and 4,000 sepoys including officers. The Europeans will be formed into corps of infantry, cavalry and artillery. The European infantry will consist of 3 battalions—7 companies of 100 to a battalion. The first company commanded by a major, a captain-lieutenant and an ensign; and the other companies by a captain, a lieutenant and an ensign, with as many subalterns [*i.e.*, non-commissioned officers] as are necessary for each company. The European cavalry will consist of 2 companies of 100 each under the command of a captain, 2 lieutenants and 2 cornets. The artillery will consist of 3 companies under the command of a captain, 2 lieutenants and 2 lieutenant fire-workers each. The sepoys will be formed into 4 battalions of 1,000 each, commanded by 1 captain, 1 lieutenant and 1 ensign, who are to be Europeans, and as many Indian officers as are necessary. This establishment is to be followed as closely as possible. Very full explanations must be given of any deviations. The pay is to be continued as at present. The majors will receive 15 *s.* a day, which includes their pay as major and captain. The recruits now sent and those to be received from Bombay are to be divided equally between Madras and Bengal.

Mitchelburne Knox, Thomas Fletcher and Eccles Nixon have been appointed captains and will proceed this season. They are to receive a company in the aforesaid battalion and to preserve their rank in the order in which they are named from the day of their arrival on the Coast. They will draw their pay from the date of their individual arrival at Madras. If more captains are necessary, Lawrence's opinion should be taken for the promotion of suitable officers; but if there should be more captains than laid down by the new regulations, the companies are to be reduced on the death or resignation of the supernumeraries. Major Charles Campbell is to command the 1st European Battalion, and Achilles Preston the 2nd.

It is understood that the four senior officers, viz., Francis de Vareilles, Edmund Pascall, John Percival and Richard Black are invalids. If not, one of them may be promoted major of the 3rd battalion, but otherwise Captain Donald Campbell may be promoted. Promotions should be made with the advice of Lawrence. As the invalids mentioned above are all brave and deserving men, they should be employed on garrison or other duty, and receive

their present pay, etc., so long as they continue in service. Captain Francis de Beck is suggested as Commandant of the cavalry, as he was originally a horse officer. In future officers are not to be promoted from one branch into another, except however when the captain of any corps is by his rank to succeed to a majority. Major Robert Barker, Commandant of the first company of artillery, who returned to Europe on family business, after the capture of Manilla has been permitted to remain in England, in consideration of his good service, till the next season. During his absence his company will be commanded by a captain-lieutenant; and the Council and Lawrence may allow the emoluments of the company to whoever acts in that capacity. Captain Fitzgerald's conduct, particularly in contracting debts on recruiting service, has been very unpleasing. The bills of the two watermen in his employ amounting to nearly £40 have been paid by the Company; and Fitzgerald's note was taken for the repayment of any sums that might be advanced on his account. The amount of the bills is to be recovered, and a constant eye kept over Fitzgerald's behaviour.

It is hoped that Peace with France will not only curtail expenses but also permit the revision and correction of all accounts. The Regulations made with that object are much approved.

Sumatra affairs.

There is no objection to permitting Chepperumal Chetti, administrator of the estate of Edward Edwards, to withdraw his suit against Dupré. No proceedings had been taken in England. No duplicates of the Mayor's Court records for 1758 and 1759 have yet been received. The Court should be required to furnish them at once.

Supplement: General Caillaud has been appointed to command the Company's forces in Bengal with succession to Lawrence in case of the latter's decease or departure. Caillaud's abilities, good conduct and faithful service are well-known. He has received from His Majesty a commission as Brigadier-General in the East Indies. He is to rank next below Major-General Lawrence and is to be employed wherever his services are necessary. On his succeeding to Lawrence's command, he will enjoy the same power and authority as Lawrence now enjoys, subject to the orders of the Governor and Council of the presidency where he shall happen to be. He will have a constant seat and vote at the Council and all

Committees, and rank below Governor, except when Lawrence is present, but he cannot succeed to the post of Governor which will, according to the Company's custom, descend to the civil servant next in standing. Caillaud's salary is £500 a year from his arrival in Bengal, besides a special gratuity of £500 a year in consideration of his services and rank. On succeeding to Lawrence's command he will enjoy Lawrence's pay, *i.e.*, £1,500 a year. But no Commanders-in-chief appointed hereafter shall receive more than £750 a year, and the Second in command only £500. Caillaud's travelling expenses and expenses in the field will be borne by the Company subject to a due consideration for frugality. He will be provided with quarters in Bengal if he was provided with any before, and at Madras will be put on the same footing as Lawrence. His allowances are in full for all his services both civil and military.

In future all metals are to be received from the Commanders of shipping according to the Europe manner of weighing, viz., copper at 5 cwts. at a draught, allowing 1 lb. for every 5 cwts; iron at 5 cwts. at a draught allowing 2 lbs. on every 5 cwts.; lead at 10 pigs at a draught using no weights less than 4 lbs.; steel using no weight under 1 lb.; tin at 5 cwts. at a draught using no weights under 1 lb. 8 sets of iron avoirdupois weights and 2 scale beams able to weigh about 15 cwts. to a ton at once, together with a set of brass standard weights and scales are being sent out. Two ships are sent to Madagascar to supply Sumatra with slaves. Isaac Tullie, appointed last season to Bengal, is now permitted, if he wishes, to succeed to the first vacant lieutenancy at Madras. Samuel Barnes, some time a lieutenant in His Majesty's service, proceeds to Madras with succession to first lieutenancy with the pay of that rank. As the military recruits will form the best part of a battalion, three captains—Mitchelburne Knox, Thomas Fletcher and Eccles Nixon are now sent out. Captain Robert Fletcher has been appointed major in Bengal in consideration of his good conduct at both Madras and Manilla.

In spite of numberless demands, no attested muster rolls have been furnished since 1758. They are to be furnished at stated yearly periods in duplicate. The friends of the soldiers frequently desire information about them; and in cases of inheritance, the interested parties have to be informed of the existence or otherwise of particular persons. The Master Attendant is to furnish through

Council complete lists of Europeans employed in the Company's vessels, and lists, as complete as possible, of persons employed in the country shipping belonging to Madras. The Company has been much gratified to hear of the gallant resistance of Captain Thomas Howe of the *Winchelsea*, against two French men-of-war off the Hugli last January. The Company's thanks have been given to him. The *Worcester's* packet for Bengal is to be forwarded thither as soon as possible.

SEPARATE DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO ROBERT PALK, ETC. LONDON, DECEMBER 30, 1763. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol.* 3, *pp.* 49—60 (*original*, 12 *pp.*). *Duplicate in Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 67, *pp.* 95—105 (11 *pp.*)]

Reply is now given to the despatches from the Select Committee, dated November 9, 1762 and May 30, 1763. The Company is much pleased with the peace made between the Nawab and the King of Tanjore. Had war broken out between them, there is no knowing how far the flame might have spread, when our military force was insufficient to undertake a new war. Dupré has behaved in this matter in a very able and satisfactory manner. The 26 lakhs of rupees secured by this treaty from the King of Tanjore is a happy acquisition as it is to be applied to the payment of the Nawab's debts. The refusal to transfer this sum from the Nawab's account to that of the King of Tanjore was right, for the possession of the Nawab's forts is a security for what he owes. The Company does not understand why, if the settlement of the tribute was for 22 lakhs, and if Dupré succeeded in securing a present of 5 lakhs in addition for the Company's intervention, the latter sum should be credited to the Nawab at all.

The conduct of the negotiation with the King of Kandy is entirely approved. The jealousy of the Dutch is natural, but the Madras Council's conduct has been so prudent as to have no just foundation for complaint. The Dutch Company has represented this as an infringement of the Treaties between the two Nations but the Company has been furnished with sufficient materials from Madras to prove the injustice of the accusation. With regard to the complaint from Colombo against Cornish for having seized a French prize at Trincomalee, the communication of it to Cornish was the only proper step to take.

It is probably well that the negotiations with Nizam Ali Khan for the Circars of Kondavir (Murtazanagar), Ellore, Mustaphanagar, Rajahmundry and Chicacole, are at an end. Had they continued,

they would perhaps have involved the presidency in difficulties beyond its strength without procuring any considerable advantages. The steps taken were so cautious as to permit receding without loss or dishonour. It is supposed that the bills received to cover the expenses of the sepoys have been duly paid.

Regarding the Manilla expedition, the Company has since April 27 last, received the Madras despatches of August 2, 1762 and May 30, 1763, together with those from Manilla of December 25, 1762 and March 1, 1763. As that city will already have been restored, further remarks are unnecessary. The Company has not yet learnt whether the negotiations with the inhabitants of the principal parts of the island went far enough to secure a quiet possession of Manilla and Cavita. It is unfortunate that the Acapulco ship, the *Phillippino*, did not fall into the hands of the English Squadron sent to seize her, for her capture would have in a great measure made good the 4 million dollars ransom money, whereas only 5,16,260 dollars have been paid, and bills given for the rest. A bill for 2 million dollars is under negotiation, but the success of such applications is always uncertain. Cornish sent this bill to the Bank of England without giving any information to the Company. It appears that when realized, only one-third is to be paid to the Company, but steps will be taken to recover half, according to the original plan in which both Cornish and Draper at first concurred. The Admiral's conduct also was unkind, not to say unjust, in excluding, after Draper's departure the Company's troops from sharing with His Majesty's, on the pretence that it should be made good to them out of the Company's one-third share. These with some other irregular transactions of the Admiral will be laid before the Ministry. Draper's sudden departure from Manilla before other objects such as the attack of Mindanão, had been undertaken, was certainly irregular and probably gave room for the Admiral's conduct. Dawsonne Drake, etc., have forwarded 2 bills of exchange, drawn by the Archbishop (who is also Governor of the Philippine Islands) on Madrid for the subsistence of Spanish officers at Manilla for a total amount of 24,044 dollars. It was very disappointing that only 54,000 dollars' worth of plate should have been sent to China instead of the considerable remittances which were expected; that 1 lakh of rupees intended for China was detained, and that the Manilla Council drew bills on the Company for £6,660. The expenses of the expedition will prove immense. A particular

account of the transactions, charges and expenses, all regularly authenticated, should be sent, for the Company must seek reimbursement from the Government. It appears that Drake, etc., have conducted affairs with prudence and humanity. Report should be made as to whether any further steps have been taken in the proposal made by the ambassador of the King of Mindanão, for cultivating a friendship with the English and for allowing them a settlement on the island. Although the Company first approved the steps taken at the outset of the expedition, yet the various dangers involved by reducing the military forces and withdrawing the Squadron, in fact rendered the expedition highly imprudent and inconsistent with His Majesty's intention, which was that the Company's settlements and trade in India should not be endangered. Lawrence, Palk and Bourchier gave most solid reasons for totally rejecting it, while Call only acquiesced in the belief that half the troops and the Squadron would return in the following January. The majority based their action on the same belief, but it was placing too much reliance on luck. In fact, the Squadron did not return, and French vessels put the whole of the Madras and Bengal trade in the most imminent danger. The *Walpole* was taken; and more troops needed at Manilla instead of any being returned. The comparison of the risks and expense with the prospects of advantage shows that it ought never to have been undertaken.

The Company hopes that the killedar of Satghar is satisfied with the jaghir granted him by the Nawab under the Company's protection. The rebellion of Yusuf Khan reported in the despatch of May 30 is most regrettable. It is hoped that the measures taken will be so prudently framed as to secure their object. A man of such known genius, ambition and abilities should not have been so far indulged or so little watched.

The refusal to make good Captain Wingfield the loss he sustained by the capture of the *Walpole* is approved. The Company cannot be liable for individual losses in addition to their own. The reduction of the Nawab's debt is much approved; but it is considered that the expense of the troop of horse on the Madras establishment might very justly be charged to the Nawab's account. The Poonamallee, St. Thomé and Tiruvendipuram countries were granted for the maintenance of a body of troops, but he should have been charged the difference between the cost of maintaining horse and foot. However as he admitted every other

article and voluntarily offered to undertake all the charges of the defence of Madras in the late siege, the Company without hesitation acquiesces in the settlement already made.

LETTER FROM SECRETARY ROBERT JAMES TO THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS. LONDON, JANUARY 21, 1764. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 68, *pp.* 85-86 (*original*, 1¼ *pp.*).]

The Secret Committee having been informed that 100 boxes of tin, a great number of boxes containing hats, scarlet cloth, coral, etc., have been clandestinely laded on the *Caernarvon*, she is to be searched immediately on arrival, and her cargo not covered by the manifest should be confiscated and sold on the Company's account.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO ROBERT PALK, ETC. LONDON, FEBRUARY 9, 1764. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 67, *pp.* 79—89 (*original*, 11 *pp.*). *Duplicate in Military Despatches from England, Vol.* 3, *pp.* 61—71.]

Cite despatches of December 30, 1763, and the Secretary's separate letter to the Governor of January 21, 1764, the contents of which are to be communicated to Council as soon as the Governor shall consider proper. Shipping news. Loss of the *Earl of Holdernesse* near Deal. Now despatch the *Duke of Gloucester*, *Northumberland* and *Lord Hollond*. In case the ships sent to Madagascar should put into Madras, the Council is informed that the ships are reckoned at 350 tons each, carrying 26 guns and manned by 70 Europeans. They are to proceed to Madagascar where the owners are to purchase slaves for delivery at Fort Marlborough, for which they shall receive £15 a head, two-thirds being males between 15 and 40 and one-third females between 15 and 25, boys and girls between 10 and 15 being reckoned at 2 for 1. Head money at 20*s.* a head will be divided between the Captain and the Chief mate of each ship; and a further sum of 20*s.* a head for each slave landed at Fort Marlborough, to be divided between the Commander, the Chief mate and the Surgeon. Demurrage will be reckoned at £8-15-0 a day to continue until their sailing for Fort Marlborough on or before November 30. The owners are allowed 4*d.* a day for diet of each soldier or passenger during the ship's detention at Madagascar. They are to be allowed £17 *per* ton for the cost, freight, etc., of all sorts of salt provisions delivered at Fort Marlborough, and £10 *per* ton for rice delivered fit for use. If the ships are detained beyond 20 days at Fort Marlborough,

demurrage will run at the rate of £11-13-4 a day. In case the ships are continued in the Company's service beyond 20 days, each ship will be paid for at the rate of £15 a day. The owners have received an advance of £2,500. The accounts are to be finally settled at Fort Marlborough, dollars being reckoned at 5*s.* each. The vessels are not to be returned to Europe, or sold to any European nation except the English, or sold to any country power without the permission of the Governor and Council, Chiefs, Agents or Residents. In case the President and Council of Fort Marlborough are unable to pay the balance due to the owners' agents, they will give bills on the other presidencies or upon the Company, the latter payable at 90 days' sight. The officers and the ships' crews may continue in the East Indies, provided it be not prejudicial to the Company's interest.

Henry Crawford, appointed writer at Madras last season, having left for Europe before the arrival of news of his appointment, now returns to his station, as fixed in the Company's letter of December 17, 1762.

News of the troubles in Bengal with Qasim Ali Khan. Although the military forces have been so reduced by the Manilla expedition, the expedition against Yusuf Khan and the natural loss by death or disease, the Company observes with great satisfaction the Council's readiness to send as large a reinforcement to Bengal as possible. The Company is fully sensible of the need of large recruits both in Madras and in Bengal. The two slave ships therefore instead of going direct to Madagascar, will be sent to the Coast and Bay with about 500 recruits.

It is hoped that the Madras Council will be able to make good the failure of Bengal to supply funds for the China investment. The measures taken for securing grants of countries contiguous to Madras, for the transport of troops from Manilla, and for the expedition against Yusuf Khan, are approved. The Treaty of Peace and the instructions sent therewith will provide guidance for the Council's conduct towards de Maudave, the pretended French Chief, who has assisted Yusuf Khan.

Since our despatch of December 30, it has been decided that Caillaud shall sit in Council as Third instead of Second. In the absence of the President and Second, the member next below Caillaud shall preside. Caillaud is to have a constant seat in Council as a personal compliment to his merit; but his successors will have a seat only when military affairs are under deliberations.

Majors or other military officers will have no seat or vote at Council, but shall be consulted as occasion requires. The behaviour of the officers at Trichinopoly and particularly of Captain Richard Black in demanding half batta, is very surprising. Due regard shall be paid to the services of officers and their demands, but they cannot be allowed to interfere in matters beyond their province. Black's dismissal is approved. He is to be sent home by the first vessel. Colonel Coote having represented that Captain John Wood has behaved in a very distinguished manner, the latter is to receive all proper encouragement. Should Vansittart have quitted his station and be at Madras on the arrival of this despatch, he should be informed that the Company wishes him to return to Bengal. In any case the Bengal packet is to be forwarded immediately. If Vansittart is at Madras, he should open and peruse the Bengal packet.

Appended are: (1) copy of letter to the Bengal Council, dated February 9, 1764 (p. 127); and (2) list of persons constituting the Bengal Council and Committee (p. 129).

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO ROBERT PALK, ETC. LONDON, FEBRUARY 22, 1764. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 67, *pp.* 91—94 (*original*, 4 *pp.*).]

Cite despatch of February 9. Delay of vessels by bad weather. This goes by the *Duke of Albany*, *Vansittart* and *Earl of Lincoln*. The two ships diverted from Madagascar to Fort William will be replaced by others on similar terms. Have also taken up the *Lord Anson* and *Prince of Wales*, on the same terms as the *Norfolk* and *Chesterfield* in 1761, to transport 600 recruits to Madras and Bengal. The Company has received memorial from Mrs. Martha Sophia Newton, stating that she is the wife of Andrew Newton, a covenanted servant of Madras, who has been so backward in making her remittances that she lacks the necessaries of life. If the facts are so, he must be required to support his wife suitably to his station. Robert Nicholson has been permitted to proceed to the East Indies for employment as Surgeon. James Leighton, having been extremely well recommended, has been appointed Lieutenant at Madras in the first vacancy after his arrival and after Samuel Barnes has been provided for. He will meanwhile draw Lieutenant's pay from the day of his landing. As a number of good officers will be required for the large supplies of men now sent out, more cadets than usual have been entertained. Send a list [*wanting*] showing their rank and destination.

Appended is the memorial of Mrs. Martha Sophia Newton to the Company (pp. 235—237).

CIRCULAR DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO THE COUNCILS AT MADRAS, BENGAL AND BOMBAY. LONDON, MARCH 23, 1764. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 67, *pp.* 123—125 (*original,* 3 *pp.*). *Duplicate in Military Despatches from England, Vol.* 3, *pp.* 92—94.]

Copies of the Treaty of Peace have already been furnished. As the French considered that His Majesty's orders to the Commanders of his fleet and army in India were too general, and desired that more particular instructions should be given to the Governors of Madras, Bengal and Bombay, His Majesty has signified his pleasure that further orders shall be sent by the Company, duplicates of which shall be furnished to the French Commissary now setting out for India. The Company therefore orders the rendition to the French under article 11, of the factories they possessed in Bengal at the beginning of 1749 in the condition they were in at the time the Treaty was signed; also under article 22, all papers, letters, documents, etc., found in any of the factories are to be restored; and also the French farmans said to have been seized by the English at Murshidabad in the house of a Portuguese where Law is said to have deposited them. The Nawab of Bengal and all princes who engaged with us not to admit the French into their countries, are to be informed that those engagements are cancelled. The Councils in India are recommended to live in harmony with the French as well as other nations in alliance with Great Britain.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO ROBERT PALK, ETC. LONDON, JUNE 1, 1764. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 67, *pp.* 107—121 (*original,* 15 *pp.*)]

Cite despatches of December 30, 1763, February 9 and 22, and circular despatch of March 28 [?] regarding the Treaty of Peace. The new Secret Committee is composed of Thomas Rous, Henry Crabb Boulton, John Boyd, Charles Cutts, Henry Savage and Laurence Sulivan, with power to take the necessary precautions for the safety of outward and homeward bound shipping.

It has been decided to abolish the Select Committees at the several presidencies.

Four vessels, the *Fort William, Success, Lord Anson,* and *Prince of Wales,* are being sent to Calcutta with 1,200 additional recruits.

These with the 2 Madagascar ships are not to be returned to England, but employed or disposed of in the East Indies. The *Lapwing* fitted out as an advice vessel only may be returned to England if necessary. She carries no goods but 500 oz. of silver for her expenses.

It has now been decided that Caillaud shall command the forces on the Coast instead of in Bengal. He will proceed next season. The Madras military establishment as constituted by the despatch of December 30, shall consist of 3 battalions of 700 men each, 3 companies of artillery of 100 each, 2 troops of horse of 100 each and 4 battalions of sepoys of 1,000 each, if so many are really necessary, but it should be reduced whenever compatible with safety. The battalions, instead of being commanded by majors, shall have a colonel, lieutenant-colonel and major each. John Caillaud is to be the Colonel of the First Battalion; Charles Campbell of the Second; and Achilles Preston of the Third. The lieutenant-colonels and majors are to be appointed from among the most deserving of our officers according to their rank. Each field officer will have a Company with 10 *s.* a day pay plus a field allowance of 15 *s.* a day if he is a colonel, 10 *s.* a day if he is a lieutenant-colonel, and 5 *s.* a day if he is a major. But allowances already made to Caillaud include the pay laid down above for a colonel. Colonel's commissions will be given under the Company's seal; lieutenant-colonels and majors will receive commissions from the Governor. His Majesty has granted brevets to John Caillaud as Brigadier-General and to Charles Campbell and Achilles Preston as Colonels. Similar appointments in Bengal. As Major Sir Robert Barker, now Colonel, will not return to Madras, where he had been made Commandant of the Artillery, the command of his Company here should be filled up by a good officer from that establishment.

The appointment of Lord Clive as Governor of Fort William with other arrangements for that Government.

The produce of the *Mignonne* prize, taken by Robert Fletcher, amounting to 2,900 pagodas is to be disbursed 5/8ths to Captain Robert Fletcher, 2/8ths to the sailors and 1/8th to the military. Fletcher has received £725 in full payment of his share. The remainder is to be paid out in the most proper and equitable manner. In the present case, the Company considered itself authorized to order the distribution without condemning the vessel in the Court of Admiralty. But the Council is never to take upon

itself the condemnation of prizes. All such captures must be circumstantially reported.

The bills on Madrid in connection with the capture of Manilla have not been accepted, and, in spite of the representations of the English ambassador, the money is not likely to be recovered. Application should be made to Manilla for all moneys lent or expended by the English on behalf of the Government there.

On the departure of Cornish, surplus naval stores will be tendered to the presidencies where they may be lodged at the prices at which such stores commonly sell. The Council may take such part of the stores as shall be most for the interest of the Company or otherwise dispose of them sending regular accounts to the Company and to the Navy Board.

Several persons have been permitted to proceed for service as surgeons in the event of vacancies. Lists will be sent by the Secretary. Send covenants to be executed by the Council, all other civil servants and all military officers. According to the resolution of a General Court, May 2, subsequently confirmed by ballot, they are to be executed in duplicate of which one shall be sent home.

The Company, being anxious to promote the woollen manufacture, is much concerned at the low price the 525 bales sold according to the despatch of November 7 last; but the quantity sold was gratifying, as the offer to sell by contract at 20 *per cent.* advance and that to receive sealed proposals for the purchase of the whole quantity, proved vain. Every possible means to promote the Company's business in every branch of Government is earnestly recommended. Attention will be paid to the remarks about putting a gloss upon some of the long ells and perpetuanoes. It is feared that the despatch of 500 bales of woollens to Bombay may prove disadvantageous, as they were specially intended for Bengal. In future when information regarding the consignment of goods is required, the Bengal packet may be opened. It is hoped that the severe notice taken of the merchants of Cuddalore regarding quantity and quality of their cloth, will increase the quantity as it has improved the quality. Merchants should be obliged to fulfil their contracts both at the presidency and elsewhere. The cargo by the *Plassey* is the largest received at one time and is very acceptable.

The Company is much gratified to learn by the despatch of November 7, that the Nawab has promised to discharge his debt

of 35 lakhs of pagodas in monthly payments by the end of the following October. This will enable the Council not only to make a large investment but also to provide for the China trade. The Jaghir granted by the Nawab, and estimated to produce 2½ lakhs of pagodas a year, appears very advantageous, and shows the Nawab's good intentions and gratitude. The Company's thanks are conveyed to him by a letter now sent which is to be delivered to him in such an honourable manner as shall evince our sincere and warm friendship. A suitable present shall be sent by an early Company's ship.

The French Company is in such a state that territorial acquisitions can hardly be secured or maintained by them. It is not likely that they will now seek to obtain grants of the Northern Circars as the Council feared.

It is not doubted that vigorous measures have been taken to reduce Yusuf Khan. Although the Council report that batta has been reduced as low as possible, it is still too heavy to be borne and must be still further reduced as opportunities offer. Similar orders have been sent to Bengal. The Fort Marlborough Council complain of a failure to supply them with treasure, opium and cloth.

Appended are: (1) copy of the Court's minutes, dated February 22, 1764, regarding the *Mignonne* prize (pp. 233–234); and (2) list of persons appointed surgeons in India which includes the name of George Mainwaring Kinderdine (p. 238).

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO MUHAMMAD ALI KHAN, NAWAB OF ARCOT. LONDON, JUNE 1, 1764. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol.* 3, *pp.* 72–73 (*copy*, 1½ *pp.*).]

The Company is rejoiced to learn that the friendship between itself and His Excellency is daily increasing, unlike the unfortunate course of affairs in Bengal. Returns thanks for the strong proofs of the Nawab's good will in undertaking the whole charges of the sieges of Madras and Pondichery, and the grants of lands lately made. The Company has a firm intention to prove the sincerity of its friendship by supporting the Nawab in the most effectual manner in his government and endeavouring 'to perpetuate the succession thereof in the direct line of your family.' Pigot's conduct in maintaining such good relations with the Nawab is much approved.

THE MADRAS DESPATCHES, 1764–1765.

DESPATCH FROM ROBERT PALK, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, OCTOBER $\frac{20}{24}$, 1764. [*Military Despatches to England, Vol.* 3, *pp.* 147—163 (*copy*, 17 *pp.*).]

Cite despatch of July 14. Reply to the despatch by the *Northumberland*. The brass or iron light 24-pounders, applied for in November 1762, were represented by Call as being serviceable in field operations; and the Council entirely agree with Call that as the draught bullocks are generally weak, the lighter the guns the more easily they will be transported. Request that they be supplied. Watchful eye shall be kept of all motions of the Dutch, but at present there is no reason to apprehend violence. Their troubles in Ceylon continue. They have lately solicited Heigel to join them with his party at Tranquebar, but he has hitherto declined. On Call's return from Madura the Council will take into consideration the possibility of reducing the extent and expense of the Madras fortifications and the expediency of repairing the bastions round Cuddalore. Benfield and Roberts have arrived and received appointments according to the Company's orders. The first is a very promising young man. The second is reported to have little genius. Situation both here and in Bengal renders considerable supplies of men being sent out whenever necessary. Bombay have been asked for assistance and they have shown their readiness by sending supplies hither and to Bengal. The cadets of this season are promising young men, except Joseph Smith and William Collins who were dismissed for misconduct. As soon as the expedition against Yusuf Khan is over, Lawrence shall be consulted about executing the Company's plans for the establishment of the troops. Lawrence considers that each battalion shall have at least 1 captain, 2 lieutenants, and an ensign, especially as it is often necessary to detach officers with very small parties of men, and also we have generally many invalids, sick and wounded. Military expenses have been reduced as low as possible. Captains Mitchelburne Knox, Thomas Fletcher, and Eccles Nixon and Lieutenant Samuel Barnes arrived and received their commissions in accordance with the Company's orders. Captain Villiers Fitzgerald's letter was sent to camp with orders to the Paymaster to recover the amount not yet discharged. 'We

wish we could give your honours any reasons for altering your opinion of this gentleman; we shall however have a particular eye on his conduct.' Muster rolls of the troops shall be submitted annually with all casualties remarked. They will distinguish men fit for field as well as garrison duty, invalids, and those fit for no duty. Lawrence has got the rolls properly made out. The present of 4 lakhs of Rs. to the Nawab by the King of Tanjore when the treaty was settled, was agreeable to the form in which both seemed desirous to have the matter transacted. The uncertainty of the return of troops from Manilla caused the *Northumberland* to be despatched thither to carry to China any one who might still remain there. The *Revenge* arrived here September 20, having left Manilla April 16 with the *Falmouth*, *Siam*, *Admiral Pocock*, *London* and *Illocos*. The last vessel was taken up at Manilla to assist in deporting the troops all of which were embarked on the above mentioned ships, except about 100 sick who were left in care of Crawford, a covenanted servant and an officer. They reached Sulu May 19 where they left Dalrymple with the *London*. Dalrymple has 2 galleys, 9 or 10 sampans, containing 1,200 Chinese, an officer, 39 Coffrees, 81 sepoys, and 4 artillerymen, and military stores. June 22, they parted with the *Admiral Pocock*. The *Revenge* and *Illocos* reached Batavia July 12; and *Falmouth* and *Siam* 8 days after. Though the *Revenge* was 20 days at Batavia, they had no intelligence of the *Pocock* which carried 300 lascars and a few military, Drake and other Company's stores, and 1,29,288 Rs. It is imagined she might have gone away to China. The *Falmouth* had to be repaired at Batavia and ought not to be expected to be completed until January, when Brereton proposed to proceed to Europe; and the *Siam* had to be run ashore. The *Revenge* was then ordered to Bencoolen to request the Governor and Council to send ships to assist in transporting troops from Batavia. The *Princess Augusta*, *Admiral Watson*, a ship from Bombay, together with the *Neptune*, are expected here in December. Many disagreeable disputes arose at Manilla between His Majesty's officers and the Company's servants. No opinion can be given until Drake and others have arrived. It was surprising to learn that Dalrymple detained so considerable a force with him. Private letters assert that he contemplates a settlement on the island of Balambangan, north of Borneo; but it is scarcely believed that he would do without previously acquainting the Madras Council. The Spanish Governor of Manilla has protested against our settling at Sulu. No decision has been taken

until some account was received from Dalrymple. Forward an explanation of the treaty made with the King of Sulu by Dalrymple furnished by Smith of the Manilla Council. Drake, etc., have been requested to send an account of Orandain's complaint against Drake regarding the Archbishop's furniture seems to have been cleared up by Cornet Mackay. Brereton having accused Captain Watson of the *Revenge* of staying longer at Malacca, on his way to Manilla, than was necessary, Watson has written a letter of explanation accusing Brereton of resenting Watson's obedience to the orders of his superiors instead of those of Brereton. Enclose cash accounts received from Manilla. The blockade of Madura has been continued. The garrison is reported to be much distressed. Expected that Yusuf Khan would attempt to escape. Once before he sent proposals to deliver up both Madura and Palamcottah on being allowed to go off to Dindigul with 1,000 sepoys, 300 horse, 2 field-pieces, and 2 covered waggons promising to give neither us nor the Nawab any molestation. As we are too well acquainted with his enterprising genius, Campbell was ordered to reply that no terms except surrender will be accepted. The death of Major Preston, when it was hoped he was out of danger, is a great loss. That alone would make the capture of Madura a dear bargain. The present King of Tanjore having frequently applied for the surrender of the Karikal districts, an agreement was made with him by which he is to grant the Company the whole of the revenues from the districts usurped by the French since 1749, on conditions of the districts being restored to him, on being repaid the 50,000 Rs. advanced by his father, and on his father's bond for one lakh being delivered up. By this, the Company gains 12,000 pagodas, besides the 6,000 pagodas owed by Tirumal Rao Krishnaji which it is hoped will be recoverable, and Basava Chetti's debt which is desperate. The King of Tanjore has paid all his kists due under the treaty with the Nawab, except the last 4 lakhs of rupees due in August, which we expect to receive shortly. He has also promised by his vakil to relinquish the annual tribute of 1,100 pagodas for Devikottai. There has been some difficulty in preventing quarrels between the Nawab and the Raja on a subject not foreseen when the treaty was made. The cultivation of the Tanjore country depends upon the water flowing into the Cauveri. For many years, the banks have been maintained by the Raja but lately the Nawab has not permitted this so that the water flows across the island of Srirangam instead of

flowing down to the bed of the Cauveri into the Tanjore country. On complaints being made by the Raja, James Bourchier was sent to Trichinopoly to report. It appears reasonable that the banks should be kept up in repairs, and the Nawab agreed to keep up temporary repairs at his expense. At a proper time, the Council will represent to him that this Raja should be allowed to take this trouble off his hands. The Nawab owes on account of this year's kists about 9 lakhs of rupees besides about 5 lakhs due on account of expenditure at Madura. Therefore deducting 4 lakhs of rupees, he owes at this time about 12 lakhs of pagodas. It is hoped that the fall of Madura will enable him to pay this off in the course of fasli 1174 or 1765 A.D. Negotiations regarding the Northern Circars were long hindered by the Manilla and Madura expeditions. On receiving advice of the considerable reinforcements to be sent out this season, the time is judged suitable for attempting to secure them (the Circars) especially as their unsettled condition seems to favour the attempt. The safest course would be to send Nizam Ali troops enough to establish the peace of the Deccan. This would require perhaps 700 Europeans, 3,000 sepoys, a train of artillery, and a large stock of stores besides the necessity of maintaining considerable forces in the Circars. Moreover the troops sent might be employed against the Marathas and prejudice your affairs on the other Coast. As the principal object is to procure a net revenue for the Company and prevent the French from getting the Circars, the possible method seemed to be to rent them for a certain number of years, on condition of paying a stipulated sum annually to the Nizam's treasury. He has therefore been offered 5 lakhs of rupees for the 1st year, 10 for the 2nd and 15 for every year afterwards. Await his answer. It is said that Husain Ali who formerly rented all the Circars except Chicacole and Murtazanagar, is endeavouring to get them again. Many of the recruits sent by the *Duke of Gloucester* died in the passage and several landed here so sick with scurvy that they may never be fit for service. This was due to their not being put at any place for refreshment. It is suggested that orders on this point should be given to all vessels bringing up recruits. Heigel who was with a party of French troops in Haidar Nayak's service, retired to Goa whence he arrived at Tranquebar, August 10, in a Portuguese frigate with a party of 280 men. He applied to us for a loan of 15,000 pagodas for their subsistence or for the surrender of Karikal and its dependencies for their support, alleging as a

reason that he has declined joining our enemies as he considered that it would be contrary to the Treaty of Peace. Both proposals were declined. It has been usual to issue stores to the Nawab and receive them back, damaged or not, at the prime rate. This caused considerable loss. It has therefore been decided to charge 30 *per cent.* on all stores delivered and to give credit for their real value when returned. August 23, a French brigantine arrived at Tranquebar with several French officers, having left Mauritius July 2 and Bourbon July 15. No French ships arrived from Europe. The French prisoners are still being advanced to the extent of 2,000 pagodas a month. As no orders have been received from the Company, and in consideration of the long period since peace was made and the neglect of the French Company to send subsistence, an attempt is being made to strike it off. But the prisoners have no means of support, so that they must either be sent to the French Islands or the payment continued. They number about 500. The French Commissaries however are now being obliged to give bills on their Government for all advances. Captain David Blake has resigned his commission, having family affairs to settle in Europe. He has been an indefatigable officer. He desires to return to his rank on finishing his affairs. Have been obliged to dismiss Ensign Drought, being of a troublesome and ungovernable disposition. The 18 and 24-pounders, small arms and flints indented for are absolutely necessary. Not less than 20,000 small arms are in use in the Company's and Nawab's service.

Supplement, dated October 24: Yusuf Khan has at last been reduced. Marchand who commanded at Madura made him a prisoner October 13. Desired Campbell to send in two Commissaries and have a body of troops ready to march into the fort. He sent in an officer who returned the next morning with proposals from Marchand to deliver up the rebel and the fort on condition that the life of the garrison should be saved, which were in part agreed to. Campbell took possession of the fort on October 14. The next evening, 'an example was made of the rebel.' Palamcottah is expected to fall soon. Bombay detachment will be sent thither so that they might be returned as soon as opportunity offered. The *Illocos* arrived at 'Wottarrah' near Vizagapatam in a distressed condition. Her troops and stores were landed at Vizagapatam and the vessel discharged. As the Nawab expects a compliment from the Company in acknowledgment of the jaghir, recommend that a present of a couple of rich gold brocade, some carpets and

orrery, a pair of globes, spying glasses and any curiosities, with a handsome light roomy landau with eight harness for six horses, will be very acceptable.

Appended are lists of the packets (pp. 163—165).

DESPATCH FROM ROBERT PALK, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, OCTOBER 24, 1764. [*Public Despatches to England, Vol.* 24, *pp.* 175—210 (*copy*, 36 *pp.*).]

Cite despatches of May 4, July 14 and 16. Now despatch the *Duke of Albany* with a full lading; and reply to despatches, dated December 30, 1763 and February 9 and 22, 1764.

Shipping news. The *Duke of Gloucester* and the *Earl of Lincoln* arriving on August 3 and 7, could not be despatched to China till September 2. The *Duke of Albany*, arrived August 23, was detained in order to be now sent home. Four ships of last year still remain in India which with 4 Coast and Bay ships and 6 Bombay ships of this season make 14 ships to be provided for. Correspondence with Bengal and Bombay lead to the conclusion that they may be employed as follows:—5 may be returned to Europe with cargoes of Bombay goods and saltpetre; 2 may be laded in Bombay for China with the help of bills drawn on Madras or Bengal; 2 may be returned from Madras in October and February; and 3 from Bengal while the latter presidency hopes to despatch 1 or 2 to China with treasure to the amount of 10 lakhs of rupees. As no answer has yet been received from Bombay, the number of ships that can be returned thence is uncertain. The *Boscawen* has sprung a leak and was obliged to put into Mauritius. The *Revenge* arrived from Manilla, September 21, with His Majesty's ships, the *Falmouth* and 5 other vessels, including 2 country ships taken up for the Company's service. They called at Sulu where they left the *London* with Dalrymple. The *Falmouth* and another vessel had to be left at Batavia for repairs. Three vessels were to be despatched from Fort Marlborough to bring the troops thus delayed, who are expected about the end of December. The *Princess Augusta* on her arrival will be depatched to Canton with treasure, etc. The *Admiral Watson* will carry the Madras, and if possible Bengal, consignments to Fort Marlborough. As the Company objects to large vessels being employed on so unknown a track as that to Sulu, Dalrymple has been recommended to take what measures he can to recover the outstanding balances at Sulu. It is said that he has many of the Chinese from Manilla at Sulu with him, and is provided with a

force consisting of some artillery, a party of sepoys, 3 galleys and several sampans. It is supposed that he is taking measures to make an establishment in these parts in consequence of the grant of the south part of Palawan and the north part of Borneo.

On receipt of the Secretary's orders regarding the unlicensed goods on the *Caernarvon*, Palk ordered the Upper Searcher and the Master Attendant to examine her; but as all her cargo was consigned to Bengal, it was thought proper not to unlade her here but to forward the Company's orders to Bengal. Other shipping news. Neither Captain Reynolds nor Mr. Biggleston is at Madras. John Smith, late Chief Mate of the *Earl Temple*, who escaped from Fort Marlborough, is said to have died soon after at Batavia. The only part of the *Onslow's* Bengal cargo landed here in 1760 was some military stores for which credit is given to Bengal. Under the Company's former orders of December 19, 1755, accounts were started showing goods damaged and short delivered to be paid for in India under the charterparty; but since the despatch of November 23, 1759, stating that dues under these headings should be paid for in England, adjusted and signed accounts have been regularly delivered to the captain and proper officer on behalf of the Company, a triplicate being kept here.

Regarding Baker's post of Master Attendant, such an office has long been needed to manage the boats which lade and unlade the Company's ships, to examine the indent for provisions and stores for the Company's country shipping, to survey Company's vessels, to supply water, to arrange for embarking and disembarking military and naval stores, to assign boats to several vessels, to secure adequate number of boats and boatmen, to keep the roads clear of anchors, to assign stations to the several vessels, to prevent transhipment of goods without permission, and to report all goods so laded and unladed. No more diligent and abler person could have been found than Captain Baker. The complaints have ceased of delays in the port, the pilfering has since reduced, and the customs are thought to have much increased. The advantages of the post are not equivalent to the gains which might be made at sea by a man of his experience and industry. List of sea-faring Europeans shall be transmitted annually.

The 900 bales of broadcloth for Bombay were despatched in August by the *Admiral Steevens*. The clothing of the Nawab's troops has required 109 bales. The quantity is more likely to increase than decrease. As this emptied the warehouse, it was

thought that the usual quantity of 600 bales could be sold at outcry. But the dealers declared that they still had large quantities of last year's goods in hand, particularly ordinary red and popinjay. Sales were advertised for October 6; but no one bid near the prime cost for anything but the aurora. It was therefore determined to defer the sale till January, as the disposal of the aurora alone might hinder the sale of ordinary red and popinjay. This failure is much regretted. The troubles of Sitaram Razu to the northwards and the war between the Marathas and Haidar Nayak are thought to have prevented the sales. Peter Perring, covenanted servant, has been allowed to take 10,000 pagodas' worth of the several sorts at 16 *per cent.* on the invoice price. This is equivalent to 25 *per cent.* at outcry as the merchants receive a discount of 9 *per cent.* if they take up goods within 6 months. The merchants complain that broadcloth is shorter than formerly. This year's aurora only averages 22 yards a piece instead of 24 or 25. This naturally affects the sale as the price has so considerably increased these last 10 years.

Copper received this year amounting only to 300 candies, and none remaining in stock, 120 candies consigned to Bengal have been landed here and put up at outcry October 6, but only fetched 31¼ *per cent.* upon the invoice, average price being about 85⅝ pagodas *per* candy fine and 85 *per* candy coarse. None remains on hand.

Two hundred candies of lead have been sold at about 19 1/16 pagodas a candy or about 93 *per cent.* on the invoice price. In spite of this, the indent has not been increased for fear that, if a large quantity be sold, it might be converted into shot by the poligars and other country powers. All the iron and steel that can be spared were put up for sale October 2. Four hundred candies of iron sold at 104¾ *per cent.* on the invoice and 30 candies of steel at 36¼ *per cent.* The indent has therefore been increased by 100 tons of small flat bar iron. Almost any quantity of this will sell at a good profit. The 5 tons of grain tin sent out this season have been forwarded to China as no one would bid half the invoice price at outcry. The merchants complained that it was soft. There is seldom any difference in the price fetched by coarse and fine copper. Sometimes the former sells even better than the latter, but the merchants regard them both equally. No difference is made between these assortments in the present indent.

One hundred and twenty-five pipes of Madeira wine received this year turned out on the whole to be very good, but several casks were worm-eaten, so that there was more leakage than usual. It has been delivered out at 100 pagodas a pipe as last year, which is more than 40 *per cent.* advance. The method of sending the gauge of every pipe is good and should be continued. It is desired that the Company should increase the quantity owing to the great number of civil and military servants who cannot afford to buy what is brought out for private sale. It is regretted that so large a quantity of provisions has been sent out this year, as there is already more in India than can be expended in many years. Ten pipes of Madeira wine were sent in September to Fort Marlborough.

The consignments to China this year amounts to 332,648 pagodas, of which 175,687 is in treasure. This is larger than was thought possible last March. Silver could only be produced at very dear rates. A small part was therefore sent in gold in the hope that it would answer better than silver, and because so many ships have to be provided for. The loss of the *Winchelsea* assisted to increase the Madras consignment, as that made available the cargo privately freighted for that ship. All efforts will be made to support the trade, but 'the resources of India will be found every year more and more insufficient for its support.' Every effort will be made to revive the Manilla trade. The President has written to the Governor of Manilla with that object. The treasure intended for Canton by the Manilla Council has been brought here but will be forwarded thither by the first consignment.

The supply of the China investment, the expenses of the army in the field and the bills drawn on us from Manilla, Sumatra, and Bombay, have necessitated borrowing more money for interest. The debts amount to 2 lakhs of pagodas, the interest of which is charged to the Nawab. Payments due from him and the King of Tanjore will, it is hoped, soon permit the repayment of the bonds. The dispute between the Fort Marlborough Council and Dobinson, Supracargo of the *Luconia* over the freight of the 46 Chinese transported from Manilla to Fort Marlborough, being referred to Madras, has been settled at 800 pagodas, as accidental expenses were involved by the passage being made at an unfavourable season. Attention shall be paid for the assistance of the Fort Marlborough presidency.

The gunpowder received this season is found too weak and mixed with much dust. It is at present packed in 50 pounds barrels. It would be a saving to pack it in 60 pounds barrels, two of which will make an ordinary bullock load. The Assay-master's indent not having been complied with for some time, he is in great distress for almost every article, especially an assay-balance and parting glasses, and the work must have come to a standstill had not Bengal supplied a few of the latter.

The pains taken about the investment has secured some improvement in the manufacture and no outstanding debts have been incurred under the present system of advances. The Cuddalore investment has been deficient in quantity and quality. Great difficulty has been found in obliging their merchants to perform their contracts, but it is hoped that this will be overcome. One hundred and fifty-two bales have been received from Vizagapatam and they have as much more still unwashed owing to the constant rains. The manufacture there has improved. Chay goods from Masulipatam arrived so late (as Pybus was disappointed of the ship by which they were to have been sent), that they had to be put on board the *Albany* without examination. The 152 bales sent by the *Fox* which sold nearly as well as the other goods, were purchased of private merchants, and being of inferior quality, came under the description of turned-out cloth. Much caution has always been used in accepting goods from our own merchants much inferior to the muster, lest it should lead to the debasing of the manufacture. Due attention shall be paid to the Company's orders to receive turned-out cloth at a proportionate abatement both at Madras and at the subordinacies. As it is found that turned-out cloth was sometimes sold at a profit to the retailers here, the provision of cloth of the Company's assortment by private merchants has been again forbidden. The rule that part of the Company's goods shall be delivered by August 31 and the remainder by January 31, has been adopted at the subordinacies as well as here, though not at present with equal success. The merchants at Cuddalore have been permitted to provide a quantity of cloth of tolerable quality though not of equal substance with Salem cloth at the price allowed. The chintz now sent seems to be better executed than usual. Regret that the Company disapproves the (permission to) sending chintz provided for Manilla to Europe.

Fortifications are being carried on here as rapidly as possible. The inside of the North-West rampart has been faced. The Mint bastion has been completed. South-West caserns are nearly finished. South-West wing of the South tenaillon is raised almost to the cordon and the parapets of South-East wing are finished. Much has been done for works round the Black Town. When Call returned from Madura, a detailed report of progress will be made.

The only rents hitherto paid in full are those of Tirupasur paid by Venkatachalam (59,000 pagodas), Manimangalam paid by Mir Adil (14,700 pagodas) and 2 villages to the southward by Nalla Chetti and Ramalinga (1,270 pagodas). The first two are said to have lost considerably. The reports from the Tahsildars state that the revenue still to be collected at the time they are appointed would not suffice to clear the rents in any one farm. According to the statement entered in Public Consultation of August 21, the countries were let from October 16, 1763 to July 31, 1764 for 288,820 pagodas. Of this there remains due about 61,000 rupees. Part of this has since been received, but in any case, there will be a big deficit from Pushpanatha Nayanar, for Utramallur, Salavakkam and Kavantandalam, and from Muhammad Azim for Karunguli. But renters are in desperate circumstances. The arrears due for the 2 Conjeeverams, Chingleput and the Seven Maganams will mostly be recovered, but no exact estimate can be framed until the grain and other [produce] under the charge of the Tahsildars are sold out. On enquiry it appears that one great cause has been a fall in the price of grain from 100 to little more than 60 pagodas a garse, apart from their having been taken at too high a rent. In answer to the advertisement for sealed proposals, many were sent in, the highest being from [Venkatachalam] to rent the whole with the exception of the villages Chennamanayakanpalaiyam and Nayudupet, for 324,000 pagodas on the Nawab's security, exceeding the other bidders by over 67,000 pagodas.—Public Consultations, August 21. From the accounts of the Tahsildars and the best information otherwise obtainable, it is believed that the countries are not worth as much as Venkatachalam offered by at least 50,000 pagodas, and unless it is to be paid out of the Nawab's treasury, it is not apparent why Venkatachalam should offer so much. This is probably due to the Nawab's jealousy of the persons that might be employed by the Council. The principal evil, as a consequence of accepting Venkatachalam's proposal was that the countries might

be distressed by unreasonable exactions. Against this, the other bidders were not made of such substance and character as could be depended on. Venkatachalam's offer was therefore accepted under condition that the countries are to be immediately taken from him unless he allows the inhabitants their just dues. He also promises to repair the tanks. He is at present with the Nawab but has been informed of the acceptance of his proposals and required to furnish the security. Meanwhile the country has been delivered to his managers. He proposes to defray the rents in three instalments a year. The villages of Chennamanayakanpalaiyam and Nayudupet to the southward inhabited chiefly by the longcloth weavers, are to be put under an amaldar, as their continuance under any of the Company's merchants who were the only other bidders might prejudice the investments. It is now found that the Poonamallee revenue though put under a Tahsildar will fall short of the due account by 13,000 pagodas. This has been brought about by Pushpanatha Nayanar's employing part of the revenues to pay his more pressing creditors. He was very anxious to have the management continued to him for the remaining 2 years of his cowle, but it was thought that it was inconsistent with the Company's interest. The farm was therefore let for 3 years from July 31 to Mooperaul Krishnayya, Venkatachalam's manager, and a man of reputed substance and condition for 44,350 pagodas a year, for which he is to give security. The same person has been given the betel and tobacco farm for 3 years at 22,000 pagodas *per annum*, about its full value. Nayanar still owes 7,687 pagodas on account of this, but Vaidyanathan who was appointed to manage it, reports that the former rent of 29,000 pagodas a year exceeded its real value. The Banksall farm is said to have fallen so much in value because of the small quantity of grain recently imported into the country, that it has now been let to Nalla Chetti for 400 pagodas a year for 3 years, the former rent of 1,600 pagodas having exceeded its value even in the most favourable times.

The Karikal country which was to have been delivered to the King of Tanjore for a lakh and a half of rupees of which half a lakh was paid, has now been delivered to him on condition of the Company's retaining all the rents received since its capture. The Company by this gains about 12,000 pagodas independent of the balance due from Tirumal Rao Krishnaji amounting to 6,000 pagodas. But Basava Chetti's debt on this farm is regarded as

desperate. The 16 villages adjoining Karikal and belonging to the French which are to be delivered over to them under the Definitive Treaty, have been let to Muttukrishna, a merchant concerned in the southern investment, for 4,500 pagodas *per annum*, so long as they remained in our hands. Srinivasa Chari, the renter of the arrack farm at Cuddalore, representing that its value has much decreased since the military were withdrawn from thence, has been allowed to pay monthly whatever the farms might produce until the circumstances have altered.

Although several renters of the assigned countries have fallen short in their payments, yet, considering that they were in general over-rated, it is believed that very nearly the full value of the farms has been received.

Pybus was appointed to so many employs together in 1762 owing to the absence of many members of the Board. Some of them were only temporary. In future the employments shall be distributed as equally as possible. Manilla has been restored to Spaniards, and the Council there are returning by the *Admiral Pocock*. Parsons, a factor, and a young man of great merit, has been assassinated in his tent at Sulu. The cause and the murderers are unknown, although a reward was offered for their discovery. Hector Mackay, nominated writer, has been returned from Manilla where he was employed in the military. He desires to continue in the latter, and as he held a commission as cornet, he has been appointed to a cornetcy. Richard Brickenden, senior merchant, having long suffered from ill-health, has been permitted to make a voyage to China with leave to proceed to Europe if necessary. He is recommended to the Company's favour in case his health is sufficiently re-established to allow him to return. Military promotions are reported in the Military Department. Edward Cotsford, Engineer, returns by this ship owing to ill-health. His distinguished merit deserves permission to return if his health permits, as he will do credit in any station, civil or military. Captain David Blake, having resigned, returns on this ship.

Regulations for accounts are being collected so as to frame a new set of Regulations for the field and garrison which it is hoped will prevent all confusion in future.

The Company's remarks regarding Mayor's Court in despatch of December 31, have been communicated to the Court. Duplicates of their records for 1759 are now forwarded and those for 1758 will follow by the next ship.

His Majesty's ship *York* returned here from Trincomalee in July and sailed for Bengal October 3, to join Commodore Tinker, who is still there with the *Medway* and *Argo* frigate.

Captain Conner of the 96th., Lieutenant Capper of the Royal Artillery, and Abraham Brown, Surgeon of the 79th, took their passage to England by way of China on the *Northumberland* and several others proceed by the *Albany*.

Supplement: Shipping news. The Agent for military clothing reports with the approval of Lawrence that the cloth sent out is much inferior to that of His Majesty's troops, and also the difficulties which the Captains find in procuring hats. It is desired that a sufficient quantity of superior cloth may be sent out annually and that the indent for hats may be complied with, on which the Captains are willing to pay a reasonable advance. A packet from Bengal is now forwarded. The amount of this ship's invoice amounts to 1,85,790 pagodas, and diamonds, etc., registered, to 78,962 pagodas. The balance in the cash chest is 52,609 pagodas and in the Treasury 1,526 lbs. 10 oz. 3 dwts. of silver, 43,992 Arcot rupees and 10,675 current pagodas.

Postscript: Bills drawn at 8 *s.* a pagoda, at 90 days' sight amounted to £ 20,393 or 50,984 pagodas.

[List of passengers is wanting.]

DESPATCH FROM ROBERT PALK, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 16, 1765. [*Military Despatches to England, Vol.* 4, *pp.* 5—11 (*copy* 6½ *pp.*).]

This goes by His Majesty's ship *York*.

On the fall of Madura, a large force was sent against Palamcottah which surrendered at discretion. The possession of these 2 places by the Nawab will effectually secure peace in those parts.

A dispute arose between the Nawab and the King of Travancore regarding the Calacad district on the Travancore frontier. During Yusuf Khan's campaign against the Pulitever Poligar in 1759, that district was given up by the Company to the King of Travancore on condition of his helping them whenever required. But during the siege of Madura, the King did not give any help in spite of repeated requests; on the other hand he was very helpful to the rebel. Yet the Council would not quarrel with him lest it should prejudice the Company's trade at Anjengo. The Council there even requested the Madras Council to induce the Nawab to give up his claims to Calacad. But the King, evidently by the Nawab's threats, voluntarily evacuated it in favour of the Nawab. It was entirely due to

our interference that the Nawab did not invade Travancore immediately on the fall of Yusuf Khan; and for this service, expect some trade concessions from Travancore. It is necessary to have a large standing army in the south, and Cuddalore has been fixed upon as a proper centre. Will consult Call as to the provision of suitable barracks there for their accommodation. The poligars of Ariyalur and Udayarpalaiyam were long in arrears to the Nawab. Major Campbell on his way back from Madura marched against the former and easily captured it. He is now investing the latter place. As there were other offers for renting the Northern Circars from Nizam Ali, have resolved to offer up to 5 lakhs of Rs. on the delivery of the sanads, 10 lakhs more in the first year, and 15 lakhs for each subsequent year. A vakil was sent to Nizam Ali's Court with instructions to offer a lakh of Rs. to the Diwan there to secure the grants on more moderate terms. But the subah would not let them for less than 20 lakhs. As this was rather high, the vakil had to return.

The King of Tanjore waived his claim to the annual tribute of 1,100 Pags. on account of Devikottai.

Admiral Watson arrived here with part of His Majesty's 79th Regiment from Batavia. Report the defeat of Shuja Daula and the Emperor near Buxar, the coming over of the latter to the English side, and the prosecution of the war against Shuja Daula. Bengal applied for help. But the long siege of Madura and the small number of troops returned from Manilla, left barely enough for the requirements of the Coast. Besides, in case Nizam Ali accept our offers to rent the Circars, a force will be necessary to be sent thither. Were therefore able to spare but 200 men including the detachment of Bombay artillery left at Palamcottah. Hope that Bombay will be able to send a considerable number on the arrival there of the 79th Regiment from Manilla. Send by this ship 20 privates and a number of Frenchmen.

Appended is a list of the packet.

DESPATCH FROM ROBERT PALK, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 30, 1765. [*Military Despatches to England, Vol.* 4, *pp.* 12—15 (*copy* 3½ *pp.*).]

Cite despatch of January 16. On the approach of the English army, the Poligar of Udayarpalaiyam abandoned the country and the Nawab took possession of it. Proper provision will be made for the other poligars on their submission. Had a personal interview with the Nawab during his stay here, regarding the

disputes between him and the King of Tanjore and the Jaghir villages to be excluded from the Nawab's grants. After much hesitation, the Nawab permitted repairs to the breaches of the Cauveri and anicut.

As to the jaghirs he promised to send a complete list. As to his debts, he says he cannot pay more than 25 lakhs of Rs. this year. M. Law sent to take full possession of the French territories to be restored, arrived at Pulicat on the 26th and anchored in this road on the 29th with the *Duc de Praslin, Le Chameau, and Le Bertin.* There will be no difficulty in restoring the French possessions as they stood in 1749. Will embark on the French ships the Frenchmen here. To-morrow Law will go to Tranquebar to receive back Karikal and then to Pondichery, Masulipatam, Bengal, etc. Law will send from Karikal 2 of his Council to the Nawab. But unless he promises to remain quiet, neither the Nawab nor the King of Tanjore will have anything to do with him.

Appended are lists of the packets (pp. 15—17).

DESPATCH FROM ROBERT PALK, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 31, 1765. [*Military Despatches to England, Vol.* 4, *pp.* 17–18 (*copy* 1½ *pp.*).]

Cite despatch of January 30. Hear that about 400 to 600 men come on the French ships with Law. These with Heigel's party and many stragglers who resort to them will swell their force to a 1,000 strong. So it is not advisable to send any large number to Bengal. In his letter to the King of Tanjore, Law writes as if he expects all the former grants round Karikal, but he really means only the ancient bounds. Send Nawab's letter to the Company. Captain Tinker is a willing and useful officer.

Appended is a list of the packet.

DESPATCH FROM ROBERT PALK, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, MARCH 27, 1765. [*Military Despatches to England, Vol.* 4, *pp.* 19—29 (*copy*, 11 *pp.*).]

The reduction of the Ariyalur and Udayarpalaiyam poligars swells the Nawab's revenues. It secures an open communication with Trichinopoly and thereby keeps intact his northern and southern possessions. The army on reducing Palaiyamkottai near Chidambaram, cantoned on February 19 at Bandipalaiyam near Cuddalore, and military expenses are being curtailed. But a small field train is still kept on as draught bullocks are not easily

procurable in case of emergency. Have begun to reorganize the troops according to the instructions in despatch of December 30, 1763.

General Lawrence thinks that the number of artillery officers is insufficient. In His Majesty's army, each company has 7 officers, though the occasions for making small detachments with an officer are less frequent there. Have therefore retained one captain-lieutenant extra, in the whole corps.

An additional 6 captains and 12 subalterns are required for the sepoys, and the Nawab is very particular that no reduction is made in their strength.

The pay of the lieutenant-fireworkers being insufficient, has been increased to that of ensigns, especially as their work is much more onerous. Having already granted sanads to Husain Ali, Nizam Ali declined to accept the Company's proposal to rent the Circars. Probably he apprehended that we would not easily restore them after we had once been in possession. Nizam Ali was nevertheless anxious that the English should help Husain Ali Khan in reducing the Circars to obedience. He then applied for 2 companies of infantry, 1,000 sepoys, a small train of artillery, lascars and stores, promising to defray the expenses thereof, as well as those of the garrisons at Masulipatam and Vizagapatam estimated at 2 lakhs of rupees yearly. He offered Rajahmundry, etc., as a security. The offer was too tempting to be rejected.

The French are returning to Yanam and may try their very best to get back their lost prestige. Already they give out that the Duke of Bedford's declaration is not binding on them. It is therefore the Company's interest to prevent them or any other European power from interfering with the Circars, and in this matter the Company's credit in the Deccan will be more effectual than any force we could send thither.

The only person likely to give trouble is Sitaram Razu, poligar of Chicacole. But he too would submit to reasonable terms, on seeing that Nizam Ali's deputy has the English support. The peace of the Carnatic is not likely to be disturbed unless the Marathas, Nizam Ali and Haidar Ali join together and make demands on the Nawab. But this will not happen so long as he has the English support, unless some other European power joins them. The troops in the Tinnevelly country will be withdrawn on accommodating matters with the King of Travancore. Have therefore decided to send 100 Europeans, a company of Coffrees, a battalion

of sepoys, a small train of artillery to Husain Ali on the terms mentioned above. Meanwhile news was received that Nizam Ali is marching this way to make demands on the Nawab. Will send some troops to oppose him in case he comes this side of Cuddapah. Are not afraid of him and the Marathas as the utmost they can do is to plunder parts not covered by the English troops. Karikal has been delivered over to Law; and Russell managed the affair satisfactorily. Law at first demurred to pay any tribute to the Raja of Tanjore, though his grants and Dupleix' memoirs distinctly mention it. But finding us determined to support the Raja's claim, he yielded. The French have still with them the Raja's bond for 70 lakhs of rupees extorted from him in 1750 by Erad Mohidin Khan, and they may at any time produce it and break with him. Law is now at Sadras. He has reorganized the military and civil establishment. He intends keeping up only 7 companies of infantry, and sending the rest to the Islands. It is necessary to maintain a respectable force ready to oppose any attempts of theirs from the Islands. Bengal is not likely to return any of our troops.

The Manilla books being very confused, a committee has been appointed to examine them, and their report is in Consultation of March 12. The French prisoners sent on the *Admiral Pocock* were landed on her way to China on an island adjoining Sulu to avoid suspicion. Steps will be taken to re-embark them. The military fit for duty now consists of 247 in the artillery, 159 in the cavalry, and 125, in the infantry, a force much too small to protect the chain of forts from Vizagapatam to Travancore. If the Company demurs maintaining such a force, the Nawab would be too willing to bear part of its expenses which he can well afford after the siege of Madura. With a view to find out an easy sea communication with Tinnevelly and Malabar Coast, have appointed Sub-Engineer Stevens to explore the passage between the mainland and Rameswaram, on which stands a famous pagoda.

The Dutch at Colombo enquired whether the King of Kandy applied to the Madras Council or to the Nawab, for help against them. Have replied them in the negative and assured them that no engagements would be made that would infringe the friendship between the two Companies.

Captain Robert Villiers Fitzgerald has discharged his bond. Hear from Tellicherry that the English fleet from Bombay has taken the Malavars' forts on January 28, and seized their fleet.

It is not likely that Bombay will send any of their recruits to this Coast.

Hear that Jafar Ali Khan died and that his son was proclaimed his successor.

The correspondence between Maudave and Yusuf Khan, since found in Madura, would reveal the former's machinations.

Supplement: Hear that Sir Robert Fletcher, who succeeded to the command of the army after Major Munro, seized the forts of Changar, Iliabad (Allababad?), etc., and is pursuing Shuja Daula to his capital Lucknow.

Appended are lists of the packet (pp. 31—33).

DESPATCH FROM ROBERT PALK, ETC., TO THE COMPANY. FORT ST. GEORGE, AUGUST 8, 1765. [*Military Despatches to England, Vol.* 4, *pp.* 34—37 (*copy*, 4 *pp.*).]

This goes overland. As Nizam Ali marched with an army of 40,000 horse and 10,000 sepoys on the Carnatic to make demands on the Nawab, have withheld the rest of the detachment intended for the Circars. He came by slow marches towards Tirupati, which afforded us time to collect a body of troops which though unable to prevent his entering the province, made him retire by the west road of Nellore by rapid marches. He recrossed the Kistna near the Bezoara pass and wrote a friendly letter to the President sending him a present of an elephant, dress, etc. Thereupon the remainder of the force intended for Husain Ali was sent to Masulipatam. Meanwhile Sitaram Razu delivered up the Rajamundry fort to the English. Are supporting him in his attempt to retain the Chicacole Circar at a moderate rent. Our chief object in sending the army to the north was to restore peace in the Circars and to prevent the investment from falling into bad hands.

The King of Travancore, finding the several forts of the Calacad districts, weakly garrisoned, seized them one after another, but on the approach of Colonel Donald Campbell, abandoned them all. He will soon be obliged to come to terms. In June, Colonel Charles Campbell marched against the troublesome poligars north of Nellore, and forced them all to submit to the Nawab. Thus throughout the Nawab's jurisdiction which extends from the Kistna to Cape Comorin, peace has been secured. The Company's villages in the Nizampatam districts, which were seized by the Ongole Raja, have been ordered by the Nawab to be

restored to that renter. Have completely delivered the French possessions. They are now rebuilding their houses at Pondichery. Law is now at Chandernagore. Shuja Daula surrendered himself to the English army at Allahabad. Lord Clive leaves Calcutta to dictate peace terms. There are still 300 Englishmen left at Sulu and a hired ship is sent thither to bring them.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO ROBERT PALK, ETC. LONDON, NOVEMBER 21, 1764. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 68, *pp.* 25—46 *(original,* 22 *pp.).*]

Cite despatches of June 1, 1764. Acknowledge the receipt of despatch by the *Liverpool*, man-of-war, on October 4; also despatches from Manilla with separate letters from Drake of September 21 and 23, 1763 and February 1, 2 and 9, 1764. Now despatch the Coast and China ship, the *Tilbury*. Arrival of shipping. Have taken up this season 20 ships of which 3 are for Coast and China, 1 for Madeira, Coast and China, 3 for the Coast and Bay and 1 for Madeira, Coast and Bay. Coast and China ships and Coast and Madeira ships will be despatched by the end of December, Coast and Bay ships by the end of January.

The Company's ship, the *Royal George*, Captain Nicholas Skottowe, Commander, 400 tons, will be despatched to the Guinea Coast to procure slaves for the Sumatra settlement. Shipping directions. As last season, the ships directed to the Coast and Bay were too few to bring home the investments, one or two will be sent from Bombay. The appointment of the Company's Council at Canton. China shipping. Casual ships despatched to China should carry cargo to the value of at least £ 20,000 each, but the more the better. The exports to the East Indies this season are:—

Eight hundred and eighteen bales of cloth, 79 of long ells, 4 of sundry goods, 100 tons of lead, 150 of copper, 50 of iron, 5 of steel, 21 of cordage, 200 whole and 400 half-barrels of gunpowder and 125 pipes of Madeira for Madras; 816 bales of cloth, 7 of piece-goods, 100 tons of lead, 130 of copper, 50 of iron, 10 of steel, [?] of tin, 97 of cordage, 400 barrels of gunpowder and 125 pipes of Madeira for Bengal; 1,330 bales of cloth, 210 of long ells, 56 of broad long ells, 16 of sundry goods, 100 tons of lead, 282 of copper, 200 of iron, 30 of steel, 240 barrels of gunpowder and 50 pipes of Madeira for Bombay; 1,479 bales of cloth, 100 of long ells, 20 of shalloons, 10 cases of satins, for Persia; 82 bales of cloth, and 20 of long ells for Sindh; 50 tons of iron, 5 of steel

[?] of tin, 10 tons of flour, 83 hogsheads of beef and pork, 60 barrels of gunpowder, 18 of cordage, 20 tons of ironmongers' ware and 26 of shot and shells for Sumatra; and 418 bales of cloth, 443 of long ells, 26 of camblets, 10 of hairbines and 1,340 of lead to Canton. The Company is much pleased with the Nawab's proposals to clothe his troops with perpetuanoes, as this will increase the export of woollens. Shall therefore send 79 bales of that cloth including the 1,000 pieces estimated as the annual consumption for that purpose. The Nawab has also intimated that he will think of some scheme of selling the other cloth, presumably the broadcloth. His Excellency should be encouraged in this scheme. In consequence of the Council's pressing remarks, indents for military stores and small arms including 5,000 for the Nawab's service will be complied with. The 125 pipes of Madeira to be sent to Madras which has lain for almost a year, and been declared to be of good quality, will be sent. A report is required of its quality and condition of its casks. Owners are to be made responsible for deficiencies on account of bad stowage or pilfering on board. Five pipes are to be sent to Sumatra from Madras and the same quantity from Bengal. Two additional pipes are consigned to Canton. The Sumatra settlements are to be supplied with such goods etc., as they need. No naval or victualling stores will be sent this season on Government account, and nothing has yet been heard of the clothing of any of His Majesty's troops. In consequence of the difficulties of supplying a sufficient quantity of silver for the China investments, the Company is sending thither £2,50,000 worth of treasure, but the Council is still to make as large a provision of treasure and goods for the China investment. The amount needed for that cannot be estimated; but each ship's invoice from Canton should amount to £30,000. The consignments from London to Canton amount to £ 3,17,250 whence the Councils in India should be able to calculate the sum needed by the Council at Canton. The China Council is permitted to take up such sums as they need by bills on the Indian presidencies. The Council is to keep the supply of the China trade constantly in mind. No casual ship may be sent thither without consignments of at least £20,000; and besides these such consignments must be made as will provide, together with the consignments from London, £30,000 for each homeward ship. This is to be observed as a standing order.

Enclose a list of the investments. Early steps should be taken to secure necessary supply of saltpetre from Bengal. Coast and

Bay ships must be returned with half their kintlage in saltpetre. Returning ships are to be laded as equally as possible and have as large a proportion of bale goods as can be supplied. The 33 bales of chintz and lampasses originally designed for Manilla but sent to England (Despatch of May, 31, 1763) have been paid for and the account settled with the owner's attorney. Nothing of this sort is to be done again.

Have appointed as writers—John Sulivan, John Peter Boileau, William Bourchier, George Savage, George Scott, Charles Mordaunt, John Ross, Thomas Barnard, William Petrie, Robert Duncan [Munro], William Light, Patrick Wauchope, William Chambers and Anthony Brown. Boileau is in Bengal and Savage has been employed in the Secretary's office at Madras. Both are to execute the covenants now sent. Thomas Barnard is said to be qualified in those branches of education needed by an engineer and may be employed therein. The writers sent last year and this should permit Council to do without 'monthly writers or black people.' The frauds of conicoplies amounting to 39,911 pagodas show the necessity of having covenanted servants in all places of trust. Any covenanted servant on the Sumatra establishment who is at Madras is to proceed thither at once. List of persons permitted to reside in India will be sent as usual. Instead of the former directions regarding Caillaud, it is now ordered that he shall be Second in command of the Company's troops on the Coast to succeed as Commander-in-chief of those forces, only on the death or departure of Lawrence. Whether as Chief or Second in command, he is to be subject to the orders of the Governor and Council. When Second in command, he will sit as Fourth in Council; and when Commander-in-chief as the Third, but is never to rise higher in Council. His salary is as directed in despatch of December 30, without any additions as colonel of a battalion or captain of a company. No other military officers are to have a seat in Council, but consulted as occasion requires. It has been decided to send out this season 1,800 recruits—100 by this ship, 360 on three other Coast and China ships, 480 on the four Coast and Bay ships and 300 by the *Hector* taken up for the outward voyage only, and 560 by conveyances not yet determined. More than half will probably be required in Bengal. Send seniority lists of cadets appointed. Although the Company is awaiting the despatch by the *Deptford*, the spirited measures taken to renew the siege of Madura are much approved. If successful, they will

make the Council extend the Madras investment and enable them to assist Bengal. Send copy of the French King's Edict[1] concerning the East India Company, dated August, 1764. The French King takes over the administration of the French Isles, but their Company will have a monopoly of trade, etc. No information of their Company's intentions has yet been obtained. Now send a present for the Nawab consisting of a temple of exquisite workmanship, enriched with diamonds worth £3,000; also send a letter for him in a rich brocaded bag to be delivered with proper ceremonies; also send a description of the said temple and the manner of using the several parts which can further be explained by General Caillaud and Captain Mainwaring, Commander of the *Tilbury* in whose charge they come. It is high time that the allowances of the Commander-in-chief in field should be fixed within reasonable bounds. Orders on this point will be sent by the next shipping. Meanwhile no commanding officer in the field shall receive greater allowance than what he can show to have been necessarily and really incurred. Captain Christopher Theophilus Chaigneau and Lieutenant Thomas Smith have been appointed to take charge of the recruits on their way out. They are to succeed to the first vacancies that occur after their arrival, and get pay from date of arrival. A list is to be furnished of all persons, either civil or military, who went to Manilla, showing those who have returned, died, deserted, etc., in order to satisfy the importunate enquiries of their friends. The last season's ships are reported to have taken in at Madeira and Canaries, iron guns, copper and other contraband. Every possible method is to be taken to discover unlicensed goods and their owners. The accounts of goods landed from or found in each ship are to be compared with the manifests and anything not found in the manifests are to be seized and sold to the Company's account. A full report is to be sent of all such goods so that the Company may be satisfied that the Council has done its duty.

Appended are:—(1) the Secretary's list of Surgeons, dated February 18, 1765, including the names of Thomas Carnegie, Archibald Gairdner, Thomas Orton, Robert Arnott and Thomas Mansel. (p. 153); and (2) directions for using the Chinese temple. The temple is fixed on a board covered with green velvet and turns on a pivot. It represents a Chinese temple, set with diamonds, rubies, emeralds, saphires, etc., with four fronts divided into three storeys

[1] Printed copy in *Public Despatches from England*, vol. 68, pp. 141—146.

15 inches high. The three steps in front contain a drawer in which there is a double looking-glass. The two upper storeys slide to one side and contain drawers. The 4 pavilions at the angles of the lower storey conceal small chests to contain patches or wafers, etc. On the top of the pavilion is a square tower to contain ink and sand. The dome on the top of the third storey contains a double diamond and ruby sun which is run by a clock work. It must be cleaned only with a small pair of bellows and a soft brush (pp. 81—83 of Military Despatches from England, Vol. 3).

LETTER FROM THE COMPANY TO MUHAMMAD ALI KHAN, NAWAB OF ARCOT. LONDON, NOVEMBER 21, 1764. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol.* 3, *pp.* 74-75 (*copy*, 1½ *pp.*).]

Cite letter of June [1]. Wish the Nawab a continuance of prosperity. Such body of troops will be sent out this year as will be sufficient to establish tranquillity everywhere. The Nawab's proposal to clothe his troops in woollen is most acceptable. The Governor and Council have been directed to present to His Excellency a curious temple set with precious stones.

LETTER FROM SECRETARY ROBERT JAMES TO ROBERT PALK, ETC. LONDON, DECEMBER 8, 1764. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol.* 3, *pp.* 95-96 (*copy*, 1½ *pp.*).]

Acknowledge the receipt of the packets by the *Deptford*. The Directors observe with concern the resignation of Lieutenants John Bridger, George Buck, Arnold Hunterman, Francis Swain Ward, and Robert Phillips in a most unsoldierlike and mutinous manner. It is presumed that they will be sent home by the first conveyance. Any others imitating them are to be immediately discharged and sent home.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO ROBERT PALK, ETC. LONDON, JANUARY 4, 1765. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 68, *pp.* 47—74 (*original*, 28 *pp*). *Duplicate in Military Despatches from England, Vol.* 3, *pp.* 97—126.]

Cite despatch of November 21, 1764 and Secretary's letter of December 8, 1764, the latter containing orders for the immediate despatch to England of specified officers who had resigned the service in an unsoldierlike manner. Acknowledge the receipt on December 7 of the *Deptford's* packet containing despatch, dated May 4, a letter from Palk, dated May 5, and one from Lawrence of May 1.

Despatch of shipping. Now despatch the Coast and China ships. The *Royal George* will take 250 slaves, 100 to St. Helena and 150 for Fort Marlborough. The vessel is not to be returned to England or sold to any European but the English. Three hundred recruits will be sent by the *Hector*, and the same number to Bengal by the *Falmouth*, both taken up for the outward voyage only, and must be disposed of in India under the usual conditions. One-third of their freight is to be paid in India. In case it is necessary to land the recruits by the *Falmouth* at Fort St. George, her packet is to be opened and her accounts settled there. Additional recruits shall be sent by two Bombay ships with orders to call first at Fort St. George. No information is available as to why the *Earl Temple* was not allowed to repair at Batavia, especially as the English vessels have since met with friendly usage there. Was it due to the imprudent behaviour of her commander, Captain Macleshin? The Company recognizes the difficulty of providing cargoes for so many ships sent out lately. But the *Lord Clive* should not have been sent to Canton by way of Fort Marlborough, especially as it was morally certain that the Fort Marlborough presidency could provide her with no additional treasure. Even with the help of drafts from Madras, it would have been better as proposed to employ her to Batavia.

The gunpowder now sent has been provided by merchants who have not previously supplied any. Special report on it is desired. A number of blocks are sent as indented; but as no sizes were specified, it is uncertain whether they will prove suitable. In future indents which do not give exact specifications will not be complied with. The furniture for the Garden House will not be sent as it cannot be of real utility to the Company. The sale of the 660 candies of copper at 15 *per cent.* more profit than the 400 candies sold the previous July, is gratifying; but why should the coarse sell about 1 *per cent.* better than the fine should be explained. It is also gratifying that the surplus stock of woollen goods has been sold. The Council should promote the Nawab's intention to clothe his sepoys in woollens, by every means in its power. If any part of the 900 bales of woollen goods consigned to Bombay by way of Madras could have been sold at Madras, it would have been proper to do so. The computation in the despatch of May 4 that the supplies of merchandise to China will amount to only £50,000 is very disappointing. It is hoped that a more effectual assistance will be given. As to the Council's fears that the consignments to

China would prejudice the private trade at Madras and induce the Armenian merchants and others to go elsewhere, the Company's real interest is the first consideration and that consists in large remittances to China. However it is left to the Council to settle this in such a way as shall be conducive to the general interest of the Company and satisfactory to the private trader. As the box of Divinity books was destroyed by vermin, another box is now sent. Report should have been made as to the cause of this accident. Send also a collection of treaties and negotiations in 19 folio volumes to be carefully preserved among the records. Regarding the difficulty of maintaining a sufficient supply of fanams on account of the scarcity of silver, the contract with Chepperumal Chetti to provide fanams at the rate of 41½ *per* pagoda, fanams weighing 14⅛ grains instead of 16 is approved. The Company approves the Council's not having reduced the fineness of the coin, but wished some measures could have been found to avoid the reduction of its weight even though attended with some loss, as it must operate to the discredit of our mint.

The Company's orders to distribute the investment without partiality or bias have been so frequently repeated that it might be supposed that the giving of the investment to the old merchants on the same terms as the previous year was justified. Calland's conduct in managing the Cuddalore investment is approved, and though the merchants may have been hardly treated with regard to the turned-out cloth, and further affected by the scarcity of cotton and the absence of the old weavers, yet a strict and equitable treatment offers the best method of securing the performance of contracts. As the same set of merchants, with the addition of Muttukrishna, have engaged again, it is hoped that they will be so punctual as to give no further cause of complaint. It is hoped that the return of peace will lead to the return of weavers and the revival of the industry. The orders for a strict enquiry into the causes of the decline in the Vizagapatam investment and the quality of goods and the rise in price are much approved. Regarding the Bandarmalanka investment of which the merchants complain that they had lost much, such complaints are too frequently mere artifices. The large cargo sent by the *Deptford* is very welcome.

Since the despatch of June 1,1764, two other drafts have come to hand upon the Spanish treasury for 21,450 and 17,030 dollars advanced for the subsistence of Spanish officers at Manilla. These also have been refused payment and it is feared that the

English Company's claims will be evaded at least for the present. If the Manilla government can be persuaded to pay at least part of the advance to them, it will be an acceptable service. It is hoped that the next despatch will report the return of all the troops from Manilla. Full enquiries are to be made into the cause of the disputes with His Majesty's forces, all expenditure incurred and whatever else is needed to give the Company full information on the Manilla expedition. In case the report of the Committee appointed May 19, 1763, should be deficient in any particular, they are to be made good. Send copy of letter[1] from Alexander Dalrymple, dated February 7, 1764, accusing Drake of oppressing the Chinese inhabitants with the result that few can be persuaded to emigrate to Fort Marlborough. It is now clear that the trade to Sulu in spite of Dalrymple's efforts is too trifling and irregular to be continued. The project should be laid aside. Nor do Dalrymple's other schemes of settlements on the south of Palawan and north of Borneo seem practicable at present, especially as they would require considerable force. However all treaties, etc., made by Dalrymple should be preserved and duplicates sent to England. Statements are to be forwarded of expenses and losses incurred by Dalrymple's expedition.

Until Call returns from Madura to superintend the works of Fort St. George, they should be carried on in the most careful manner according to his directions. Buildings needed for the investment such as choultries for keeping cloth washed at Chintadripet and receiving bleached cloth about the Bound-hedge to the north, costing only 730 pagodas must always be allowed. Similarly permission is given to expend 500 pagodas for repairing godowns, etc., at Vizagapatam. Company depends upon the Council's discretion in maintaining buildings with the necessary repairs and additions. Regarding the sale of the arrack and toddy farm for two years and three months to Muttukrishna for 10,900 pagodas a year, exceeding the former rent by 5,200 pagodas a year, it is observed that, if the traffic be not properly regulated, it may be of great detriment to the health of the military and poor classes. The

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[1] Extract in *Military Despatches from England*, Vol. 3, pp. 77–80. Accuses Drake of imposing taxes on the Chinese at Manilla of farming out taxes of various persons in consideration of presents and of imposing unreasonably heavy fines on the Chinese alleged to have purchased stolen pepper belonging to Drake. Drake accuses Dalrymple of having made much money at Sulu. In fact the expedition would have been ruined but for Pigot's beneficence. The pearls he received as presents are valued at 1,500 dollars.

renter should be kept under all possible restrictions in order to prevent the bad effects of drunkenness, and at the same time should be kept up to his monthly payments. The remission of 370 pagodas for the farmer of the measuring duty and the renter of the Banksal farms for the losses sustained, by the suspension of duties during the late scarcity of grain, must be cheerfully submitted to. Sale of the Masulipatam farms for the same rate as the previous year, except the salt farm which fetched 70,000 rupees instead of 80,000. The Company depends upon its revenues to answer military and all other extraordinary expenditure. All measures must be used to make the revenues as large and stable as possible. If letting the farms for three or five years will be attended with advantage, it may be done, but renters must never be suffered to fall into arrears. The increase in the produce of the Vizagapatam farms is very gratifying. As it was understood that the Company should have the sole benefit of the revenues from the lands granted to the Company, it is hoped that the titles of those who obtained jaghirs therein have been verified and the Nawab persuaded to procure for them elsewhere. Regarding failure of three of the renters in the Company's jaghir, owing, it is said, to the farms having been run up by Venkatachalam, the Nawab's Brahminy, with a view to increasing the apparent value of the grants, the Company will be content, if the reason assigned proves true, with an equitable adjustment of the renter's account. With regard to other rents in arrears, which the Council reports can be recovered in time, the Company takes it for granted that its true interest is kept in view.

It was right not to keep Edward Middleton in the covenanted service contrary to his wishes, for little can be expected from one of his turn of mind; but he should not have been allowed to proceed to Bengal in the hope of acquiring wealth, especially as he is under no covenant, and the President and Council of Fort William have been ordered to send him home. As Croke prefers to live in Madras rather than in Bengal, he may draw his annuity of £200 at the former station. The Company considers that the allowances made to the Chiefs of Vizagapatam, Masulipatam and Cuddalore of 100 pagodas a month each, to be very handsome, fully sufficient to demand the utmost endeavours of the Chiefs. They are not on any pretence to exceed the allowance made. Confirm the appointment of the Reverend Father Stanton to succeed Father Severini, deceased, as Superior of the Romish

Church at Madras, so long as he continues a quiet and well-disposed man. Approve the promotion of William Barker to the Council at Vizagapatam as a reward for his merit; also the grant of an allowance of 10 pagodas a month to Edward Stracey in reward for his great proficiency in Persian language and his assisting in translating Country correspondence. It is hoped that others may thereby be encouraged to imitate him. Regarding the covenants not to receive any gifts, grants or rewards, etc., from Country powers, except within specified limitations, it is expected that they have been executed. Every new officer, civil or military, is to be required to execute the covenant. If William Altham, a free merchant appointed factor in Sumatra, is anywhere in the presidency, he should be required to proceed to his station. As Lieutenant Andrew Willson has been appointed Lieutenant on the Sumatra establishment, the promotion of Ensign Rogers as Lieutenant in his place is approved. Samuel Curtis, who went out 1757 as a recruit at Sumatra, is now on the military in Madras. He is to be discharged and permitted to take passage home as an estate has fallen to him. In consideration of the urgent need of recruits at Madras, it has been decided that out of the 1,800 recruits sent this season, 1,020 be assigned to Madras. The Madras recruits are proceeding by the 4 Coast and China ships already despatched, the *Hector* and two Bombay ships which will call first at Madras. Officers have been appointed to each ship to look after them. The names of officers intended for Madras are:—Captains Christopher Theophilus Chaigneau, George Browne, Daniel Daniel, Henry Marcell, and Samuel Seares; Lieutenants Thomas Smith, Joseph Jacques, William Sockett, John Prise Gwinnett, Robert Godfrey, William Collins, Philip Bandinel, Joseph Carpenter, Thomas Spratt and Donald Duncanson; and ensigns Jonathan Clarke, John Stubbs, James Winter, James Galbraith, and John Wright. The recruits now sent are not to form new Companies but to be incorporated in the corps on the establishment. The officers are to succeed to vacancies in the order of their mention and to receive pay of their rank from the date of their arrival. If Bengal require fuller assistance, as many men as possible should be spared, but they are to be considered as detachments from Madras, and fixed on that establishment. If it is necessary to detain men for Bengal, they are similarly to be treated as a Bengal detachment. In general the affairs of the

several presidencies must be looked upon as a common concern as indeed they really are.

Sumatra affairs.

There has not yet been time duly to consider the dispute with the Mayor's Court as mentioned in the despatch by the *Deptford*, but directions will be sent by the next conveyance.

Supplement: It has been decided that two more Bombay ships should carry to Madras additional recruits beyond the 1,800 already mentioned. This will involve lading on other vessels 750 bales of cloth for Bombay which are to be transhipped on to Bombay ships when the recruits have been landed. In case woollen goods intended for Bombay or Bengal should be detained for sale at Madras, great care must be taken to detain a suitable proportion of each colour. Furnishing the Country powers with arms is a matter demanding more attention, as the continued military operations on the Coast have diffused European discipline there. The 5,000 arms for the Nawab are only sent in consideration of friendship between His Excellency and the Company. Every prudential step should be taken to prevent these arms from falling into improper hands. No Country powers should in future be supplied with arms or military stores without the most absolute necessity. One reason which has much increased the military expenditure in Madras has been the employment of more officers than the establishment required. The number of officers is to be reduced by not filling up vacancies until the proper establishment has been reached. Commissions[1] are now sent under the Company's seal, confirming and defining the powers of the Governor and Council consisting of Robert Palk (Governor), Major-General Stringer Lawrence (Second), Charles Bourchier (Third), Brigadier-General John Caillaud (Fourth) to rise to the Third in case of Lawrence's death or absence, Dawsonne Drake, John Pybus, Richard Fairfield, Samuel Ardley, Charles Turner, John Smith, John Lewin Smith, John Call and George Stratton. The post of Governor is always to be filled by one of our civil servants. Repeat the orders that in case of death or departure of Lawrence or Caillaud, no military officer is to have a constant seat at the Council. The Company's utmost endeavour has increased the treasure sent to China from 250 to 331 chests, but is still inadequate. None should be detained, but on the contrary as large money and goods sent to Canton as can be collected.

[1] *Public Despatches from England*, vol. 68, pp. 105–108.

SEPARATE DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO ROBERT PALK, ETC. LONDON, JANUARY 4, 1765. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol.* 3, *pp.* 127—134 (*original*, 8 *pp.*)]

Replies are given to separate despatches of March 26 and 28, and May 4, 1764. The reduction of Yusuf Khan is an object of great consequence as it secured the tranquillity of the Coast. It is now hoped that Madura will soon be reduced on which the reduction of military charges must be at once set about. Palk's letter of May 5 shows it to be absolutely necessary. Since the army took the field in May 1763, the remittances to Trichinopoly amounted to 7,18,000 pagodas, besides stores. Even if this be charged to the Nawab's account, it will delay the repayment of the Nawab's debt which in the preceding year was only reduced by 1,00,000 pagodas. As soon as Yusuf Khan is reduced, all necessary assistance must be furnished to Bengal. Large number of recruits will be sent out. The request to Lawrence to defer the departure of the King's troops was very proper and the Ministry will doubtless regard that matter in the same light as the Company. It is regrettable that the need to secure as many recruits from His Majesty's forces as possible, involved the giving of so many Captain's commissions. Council's and Lawrence's representations in favour of King's officers who joined the Company's service have been laid before the Ministry. Confirm the letter from the Secretary regarding the officers who resigned. It is observed that the produce of civil stores and other articles sold on account of the captors, and the military stores remaining in the Company's possession amounted to approximately equal sums. Cornish and Coote have made frequent applications for the Company's decision regarding prize money, claiming that the captors were entitled to the whole. On the Council's advice answer was made that, under the Articles of War in pursuance of the East India Mutiny Act, the Company is entitled to all public stores whatever taken from the enemy, that all other booty was to be disposed of according to His Majesty's pleasure, and that although in previous joint expeditions the Company has reserved one-half share of the latter, yet in the present case, from a sense of the danger and eminent advantages secured by the Company, it has decided to make no application for any share thereof. Payment may be made accordingly from the money lodged in the Company's cash. Military stores sent out in 1761 without invoice were furnished by the Board of Ordnance which has as yet furnished no account of

them. Regarding the troubles with the young King of Tanjore, the Company hopes that such prudent measures have been taken as will convince him of the advisability of keeping on to his terms with the Company and the Nawab. The negotiations with Nizam Ali are of greater importance. The acquisition of Northern Circars would be welcome if it is not so full of hazard. We should avoid endangering what we have by grasping at too much. The security of the Company's present possessions must first be looked to and, if and when that has been done, sufficient force can be spared to Nizam Ali to procure a grant of Circars. But in that case, care must be taken that sufficient funds are provided to cover all charges so that the Company may not be losers, 'as we have reason to believe was the case of the French Company, althô it be true that Monr. du Bussy and others acquired to themselves immense wealth.' The despatch of letters privately from the Nawab to the King is making cyphers of the Company and the Madras Council. The efforts of the Council must be used to prevent the recurrence of such correspondence as the letter sent by Colonel Monson to the King.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO ROBERT PALK, ETC. LONDON, FEBRUARY 15, 1765. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 68, *pp.* 75—82 (*original*, 8 *pp.*); *duplicate in Military Despatches from England, Vol.* 3, *pp.* 135—142 (8 *pp.*)]

Cite despatch of January 4. Despatch of shipping. Loss of the *Albion* on her way to the Downs. Now despatch the four Coast and Bay ships laded for the Bay, but calling at Madras to permit the landing of recruits if they are really necessary. The four Bombay ships with recruits for Madras will soon be despatched. If there is at Madras sufficient cargo to lade one of them directly for England, this may be done. The remainder of the recruits will soon follow. Send Governor and Council's commission[1] under the Company's seal. John Thomas has been appointed to the chaplaincy vacated by the departure of Samuel Merefield. An advance has been made to him of £100. Application has been made to the Agent here of the 89th Regiment for 9,000 pagodas advanced for the subsistence of Colonel Morris' regiment. It would have been more regular to procure a bill of exchange from the Paymaster's attorney on the regimental Agent. Captain Daniel Daniel has

[1] Copy in *Public Despatches from England*, vol. 68, pp. 105—108.

declined the commission offered to him. By the loss of the *Albion*, the number of recruits intended for Madras will be reduced by 120 men. Ensign John Stubbs has been transferred to Bombay establishment to rank as Lieutenant. Regarding the deed of conveyance of the Mayor's Court, the Company had directed that a declaration "that the town house is our property" not a conveyance, should be obtained. But in point of law, neither the Mayor's Court nor any other corporation can under the Mortmain Act[1] acquire real property under a will, unless there is a special clause in the Charter. The conveyance therefore is unnecessary. In its judicial capacity, the Court is wholly free and independent, but the Company will never acquiesce in their seeking independence in their political capacity. If in future they arrogate to themselves unwarrantable authority, proper regulations shall be introduced either by an Act of Parliament or by a new Charter. Regarding Jennings' legacy, no difficulty can arise. The Company permits its being employed in the repairs of the Court-house, or something useful for the Court, but the Council must be consulted about it. The Mayor's Court is mistaken in saying that this legacy is given for the present Court, for Jennings' will was proved in London, December 1762, before the Court came into existence. The Court cannot have paid proper attention to the passage of the Company's letter regarding Grierson's will which was attested only by one witness. The answer says that the Mayor's Court is always ready to grant probate or deliver up the will to the executor, so that the Company's orders to the Register were unnecessary, irregular and could not be attended to. 'This impertinent as well as absurd conclusion shows to what lengths that Court think themselves at liberty to go and in a case too, where the orders given did not at all relate to their judicial capacity, for the will was not intended to be proved in India and was deposited with them only for safe custody.' As regards the Court's statement 'they will not be biassed from doing what appears to them just and equitable,' deserves no other reply than that we shall rejoice to see them do what is just and equitable.

Gunpowder will be sent out in copper-hooped barrels; and the hoops are to be sold as merchandise. James Stringer has been engaged as a bricklayer on the usual pay of £90 *per annum* in full of wages, diet, etc., with permission to take his son with him. Since the Peace, the African slave trade having much increased,

[1] Copies at pp. 155—172 of *Public Despatches from England*, vol. 68.

the demand of goods for that market has also increased. In order therefore to encourage that trade, on which the British West Indies depend, additions and alterations have been made to the list of goods to be provided. The articles required for the African trade are particularly to be attended to. The full quantities of longcloth, and salampores blue must be sent at all events. Besides the Council's remarks on deficiencies in the investment, annual statements are required, as previously ordered, showing the quantities of each article in the list of the investment, the quantity supplied and the reasons for any deficiency.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO ROBERT PALK, ETC. LONDON, FEBRUARY 27, 1765. [*Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 68, *pp.* 83-84 (*original*, 2 *pp.*)]

Cite despatches of January 4 and February 15. Despatch of shipping. Now send the *Hector* intended to carry the 300 recruits. She carries a few goods on the Company's account. They are 100 tons of lead and 7 cases of stationery.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO ROBERT PALK, ETC. LONDON, MARCH 22, 1765. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol.* 3, *pp.* 143—153 (*original*, 11 *pp.*); *copy in Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 68, *pp.* 87—97 (11 *pp.*)]

Are now despatching the *Clive*, one of the Bombay ships with recruits for Madras. Twenty-four barrels of gunpowder are also sent to make up what was sent short of 100 barrels *per* ship by the China ships, in consequence of a sufficient quantity not having passed the King's proof. It is believed that large quantities of illicit goods have been laded on the shipping of this season. A vessel laded and cleared out of the Custom-house and proceeding no further than Isle of Wight is believed to have transhipped her cargo on to an Indiaman. Previous orders under this head are repeated. The statement that no muster rolls have been sent since 1758, proves to be a mistake for a book of them has been found at the beginning of 1762 which had been put aside 'in our Repository of Indian books.' The French Company is said to have fitted out of Port L'Orient 7 ships to the East Indies and China. Previous orders are so full that no further directions are necessary. An exact account is to be sent of the French ships received and despatched. The records maintain frequent references to regulations established in times

of scarcity of grain and some general rules to prevent monopolies, but that action has not been taken 'in that uniform and methodical manner which the nature of the case seems to require.' It is presumed that the Council has a means of ascertaining a quantity of grain imported and consumed; but it will be more satisfactory if these proceedings were regularly entered at certain intervals. The Council is, therefore, to record at least every month an account of the quantity of grain, imported, consumed and remaining. Though this cannot be absolutely exact, it may be exact enough to guide the Council and the Company. Regarding the embezzlement by Subbarayan and Muttukumarappa in the warehouse, especially 39,911 pagodas of copper sold, it has been reduced by recoveries to 16,989 pagodas. There is no doubt that the Import Warehousekeeper is accountable for all deficiencies in stores. The utmost indulgence which can be granted is that the repayments of this sum may be deferred for 2 years from the date of receipt of this despatch, after which Fairfield must make good any deficiency still remaining. But all assistance is to be afforded him towards recovering the amount from the fraudulent conicoplies. Subbarayan and Muttukumarappa are to be held jointly and separately responsible. It is hoped that the new regulations will effectually stop such frauds. The remains of all warehouses and store-houses are to be examined annually and reported to the Council. The earliest opportunities must always be taken of furnishing the Company with the books of the presidency, as much inconvenience results from delay. More care must be taken to secure the early despatch of books from the subordinacies. None has been received from Masulipatam since the capture of the place. Accounts have been received of the expenses incurred in the Company's hospitals in the presidency for the 79th Regiment from January 1760 to March 1764; 84th Regiment from January 1760 to June 1762; 89th Regiment from September 1760 to February 1764; 96th Regiment from July 1761 to March 1764 and 103rd Regiment from January 1763 to April 1763; and Royal Artillery from January 1764 to March 1764. If any accounts have been omitted, the omission must at once be made good. Some have not been certified by any officer and earlier ones have not been sent. It is now ordered after the maturest consideration that whenever General Lawrence takes the field, he shall be allowed 10 pagodas a day and be supplied with 25 or 30 coolies to carry his baggage every marching day. Similar concessions should be shown

when Caillaud takes the field, instead of Lawrence. He shall draw the same in addition to his appointment of £1,000 a year. These allowances are to be in full consideration for table and all other expenses and the Company would be very much gratified if this field allowance can be further reduced. It is to be received by one Commander-in-chief only. Lawrence and Caillaud are not to draw them at the same time, nor are they to be allowed to any officer who shall command in the field so long as Lawrence or Caillaud is on the Coast or at any future time; but a moderate allowance is to be made at the Council's discretion. The accounts yet received to the end of April 1763 only, show a small part of the expenses incurred in the Manilla expedition. Separate and full accounts are required. In order to afford Palk the same encouragement to exert his utmost abilities as were allowed to Sir George Pigot, it has been decided to give him a commission of 2½ *per cent.* upon the net revenues of all districts and farms on which commission was paid to Pigot. This, together with his salary of £3,000 a year, allowance on coinage and consulage on coral, is to be in full consideration of all his services and expenses. No commission is to be drawn for the revenues from the new grant or from any other grants that shall be made to the Company. If Palk has already drawn commission on the new grants, he is to refund the same. This 2½ *per cent.* commission is allowed to Palk only and is to be enjoyed by no future Governor without the Company's express permission. No definite information is available as to whether the President's commission has been drawn upon the whole or upon only a part of the farmed revenues. Each farm upon which commission is drawn is to be specified. Additional officers will be appointed. Meanwhile Lieutenants Richard Nelson and Alexander Fraser and Ensign William Tatham proceed by this ship. They will receive pay from the date of their arrival and take rank as shall hereafter be directed.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO ROBERT PALK, ETC. LONDON, MARCH 27, 1765. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol.* 3, *pp.* 154—156 (*original*, 3 *pp.*); *duplicate in Public Despatches from England, Vol.* 68, *pp.* 99—101 (3 *pp.*)]

Cite despatch of March 22. Now despatch three more Bombay ships to Madras together with brass ordnance, small arms, etc. In case these vessels should be too late to reach the Coast, they will proceed to Bombay whence the recruits will be forwarded by other conveyances. In case the supracargoes proceeding to purchase

coffee at Mocha should be obliged to pay for it by bills on Madras, such bills are to be duly honoured. On the 23rd arrived the *Duke of Albany* with valuable cargo and the welcome news of the fall of Madura and the death of Yusuf Khan. The care and attention paid to the China investment by the considerable remittances made to Canton, are highly approved. The newly appointed officers are to rank as follows:—Lieutenants Richard Nelson, Alexander Fraser, Charles Drummond, and Ensigns James Craig, George Smith, William Tatham, and William Hayward.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO ROBERT PALK, ETC. LONDON, APRIL 26, 1765. [*Military Despatches from England, Vol.* 3, *pp.* 158—166 (*original*, 9 *pp.*)]

Acknowledge the receipt of despatches of July 14, October 20/24, 1764. It is hoped that the surrender of Madura and Yusuf Khan's death will permit the reduction of expenditure and undivided attention to the Company's mercantile concerns. The Company much regrets the loss of so many officers and men in the Madura campaign, especially the death of so good and gallant an officer as Major Preston who had always displayed zeal and attachment to the Company. Complain of the omission from the indents of the great guns demanded in the despatch of November 9, 1762, which is a striking instance of the little attention paid on those occasions. An experienced Artillery officer of the King's service reports that no light 24-pounders have been used in the field by His Majesty's troops in the late war. They can only be used for firing tin case shot that can quicker be served by 6 or 12-pounders. Moreover being only 5½ feet long they could by no means answer the purpose of battering, for they will destroy their own works. It is also believed that medium brass 18-pounders will answer for a battering gun against any Indian fort, it having been found that the great rapidity of fire from an 18-pounder rather more than compensates the light weight of the common ball. Iron guns if used on field service would be very dangerous to men. It has been determined to order medium gun 18-pounders but not 24-pounders. Military indents have been complied with as far as possible and as many small arms are sent as could be made in time. Regarding the military establishment appointed at Fort St. George, the Directors do not see the least necessity of having two lieutenants for a company, in spite of their esteem for Lawrence's opinion. It is sincerely hoped that the fall of Madura will enable the Nawab to discharge his debt of nearly

12 lakhs of pagodas in the course of 1765. As the Company may be called upon for explanations regarding the disputes at Manilla between His Majesty's officers and the Company's servants, all material information should be sent together with the Council's report and opinion. Copies of papers regarding the dispute between Captain Brereton of the *Falmouth* and Captain Watson of the *Revenge* will be very useful in case the former makes a complaint. The settlement with Tanjore about Karikal is approved, provided the districts restored to the Raja were acquired by the French after 1749. His making good his payments to the Nawab all but 4 lakhs of rupees expected to be shortly received, is very satisfactory; and it is hoped that he has been brought to relinquish the Devikottai tribute of 1,100 pagodas. The Nawab is unreasonable to oppose the Tanjore repairs of the banks of the Cauveri. The Nawab should be desirous of maintaining friendship with Tanjore and content himself with establishing order in his own government. He must perceive that his existence depends upon the Company's strength and it is hoped that he will not bring on new troubles against Council's advice. Negotiations with him should show a respectful decency, but in this case, the Council should also display 'a firmness becoming the power they represent.' The Council has a right to intervene as having guaranteed the Treaty of 1762. The Company considers that the King of Tanjore should have at least the same liberty of repairing the Cauveri banks as he enjoyed formerly. Regarding negotiations with Nizam Ali Khan, no determinate principles can be laid down. The Company would be pleased to have the 5 Northern Circars not only on account of their revenues, but also because it would permit an increase of the investment and obstruct any French settlements thereabouts. But of the means for attaining this end, the supply to Nizam Ali of a body of troops seems to be the least eligible, only warrantable on solid and sure grants. The Council should above all attend to the safety and prosperity of what is now held and be extremely cautious of engaging in new scenes of war. Nizam Ali desires our troops to assist him against the Marathas, but any success we may gain on this side of Madras, may draw down the Maratha resentment on Bombay. The refusal to make Heigel a loan of 15,000 pagodas or to deliver to him Karikal, is approved. The movements of such adventurers must be closely watched, especially as he commands so many as 280 men. The Directors regret that so

many as 500 French prisoners still remain at Madras receiving subsistence to the amount of about 2,000 pagodas a month. They should be immediately despatched to the French Islands. The Council was right to secure bills on the French Government for its recent advances. The Company is surprised to find that Dalrymple should have detained so many men at Sulu, but cannot suppose that he will attempt a settlement on the north of Borneo without seeking the Council's approval. However, if he should have established himself on a tranquil footing on that Island and Council considers that it will be productive of suitable advantages, a trial may be made. Dalrymple seems to have assumed a most improper independence, and in future no projects or new settlements may be entertained until the Company's leave has been received.

DESPATCH FROM THE COMPANY TO MADRAS, LONDON, APRIL 26, 1765. [*Public Despatches from England. Vol.* 69, *pp.* 29—44 (*original*, 16 *pp.*)]

Cite last despatch of March 29, 1765. Now reply to the despatches received by the *Duke of Albany*, which arrived in the Downs, March 23.

The Secret Committee consists of Henry Crabb Boulton and five others. The outward shipping has been delayed by contrary winds.

The Council's intention to have despatched the *Admiral Pocock* home in October, had she arrived in time from Manilla, was very proper, as the ships that have been longest in India should always be sent home first, to avoid the case of the *Boscawen* which was laded home from Bengal in a condition unfit for the voyage, and had to put into the Mauritius.

Lading home the Company's ships in India is a very essential matter and the Company is gratified at the endeavours to concert with the Council at Bengal measures to provide for all the 14 ships in India at that time; but it may be doubted whether Bombay will be able to find cargoes for so many as 5 ships, even with large supplies of saltpetre from Bengal.

The Company is much concerned to learn of the difficulties and accidents which have prevented all the vessels employed to bring troops from Manilla, except the *Revenge* and the *Illocos*, from as yet reaching Madras. The designs of Dalrymple at Sulu will be dealt with in the Company's separate letter by this despatch.

The proposed new regulations for the port of Madras under Captain Baker, Master-Attendant, are not entirely satisfactory. Baker made two proposals, one, to fix the boat-hire at nine fanams *per* trip; the other, to establish a new method of watering vessels in the roads out of which some additional profit would accrue to him in consideration of new works which he was to make. The Committee which considered these proposals did not distinguish these two plans, but blended them together, reporting that the usual 2 fanams for each water-boat and 1 fanam on every trip made by the ordinary boats would suffice to pay all the establishment required, including the Master-Attendant himself. Moreover it proposed a reduction and difference in the division of the hire of the boats.—

	Capt. Baker's Plan.	The Committee's Plan.
Boat-owners ...	3 fanams.	3 fanams.
Boatmen	4½ „	4 „
Establishment ...	1 „	1 „
Fund for disabled boatmen.	½ „	... „
	9 „	8 „

As 1 fanam *per* trip is estimated to produce about 650 pagodas *per annum*, it will not more than cover the wages of a Deputy and other servants employed; so that if all the profits of the watering are to go to Baker, nothing will be left to meet Baker's salary, diet, etc., and these will have to be borne by the Company. While fully accepting the Council's recommendations of Captain Baker, the Company suggests that the price *per* trip may be fixed at 9 fanams as Baker proposed, and 2 fanams assigned for the establishment, by which an annual fund of 1,300 pagodas will be raised. This will in fact more than cover the charge, and the balance may be used for the support of old and disabled boatmen. It is not believed that 1 fanam extra on the boat-hire will be any burden on the trade.

It appears that Bassapa Chetti contracted for the use of 20 of the Company's masula-boats, for which he was to pay 400 pagodas a year; an explanation of this is desired, as no further mention has been made of the matter and no sum brought to account for it.

The Company, being anxious to increase the sale of woollens, is much concerned at the failure of the sale of October 6, when nothing but the Aurora was bid up to invoice-price. The sale of 10,000 pagodas' worth to Peter Perring, at 16 *per cent.* advance on the invoice-price, is disapproved, because it merely deferred the time when the market would be bare and the merchants ready to buy. When the next purchases of broadcloth are made, attention shall be paid to their being of the proper length. The exact amount of each colour of the long ells to be used in clothing the Nawab's soldiers must be reported by the first conveyance.

As coarse copper sells as well as, and sometimes better than the fine, the exports will be regulated accordingly in future. As lead sold at so encouraging a price as 93 *per cent.* advance on the invoice, a much larger quantity may be sent out, although the Council has not increased its indent for that article, fearing that it might be sold to the Country powers to be made into shot; if we do not export more, probably other European nations will; but the Council's remarks shall be well weighed before any decision is taken.

Due enquiry shall be made into the gunpowder sent out which proved weak and dusty; and if possible, it shall be sent packed in 60 lb. barrels. Future complaints about gunpowder should specify the marks of the barrels. This rule should be observed with all faulty articles.

By the *Fox* was sent out a brass field-piece three-pounder, on a new-invented carriage. The Council is to report whether it is of more use than those already employed and whether the latter can be mounted on the new carriages. This new three-pounder is lighter than usual and its service-charge is only 12 oz. of powder. Will the new carriage serve for six and twelve-pounder field-pieces?

The Company is particularly gratified at the remittances made to China, amounting to 3,32,648 pagodas in money and goods; this with the intended remittance of 10 lakhs from Bengal should enable the Canton supracargoes to lade home all their ships. It is hoped that the renewal of the Manilla trade will facilitate the supply of silver and its export to China. The Company depends upon the continuance of the Council's attention to this matter.

It also hopes that the Nawab has raised no difficulty about being charged with the interest on the 2 lakhs of pagodas that

the Council have been forced to borrow for the China trade, and to meet the heavy military disbursements; as peace now reigns in the Carnatic, the Nawab and the Raja of Tanjore should have been able completely to discharge their obligations.

The improvement of the investment is a matter of such moment that the Company hopes that the efforts of the Chief, etc., at Cuddalore have succeeded in compelling the merchants there to complete their engagements. The improvement of the Vizagapatam investment, reported after an examination by the Madras Council, is very gratifying. Such examinations are extremely useful. 'And here we must approve of your renewing a prohibition formerly made against the provision of cloths of the sortments required for the Investment, or any dealings therein, by private merchants, as a means to prevent the debasement of the manufacture.'

The proposal to ascertain the value of the several 'Farms' is much approved. The sooner it is done the better. 'We wish to have it as accurate as possible by valuing the mean produce of the several villages or sub-divisions of each country or district, at the same time it will be very proper to ascertain once for all by a full enquiry the particular rights and privileges of each district, and the dues and proportion of the produce to which the Circar is intitled, by which means you may be the better able to do justice both to the renters and inhabitants, by enforcing the rights of the first, and protecting the latter against oppression, such a system well attended to could not, we think, fail of rendering the Company's lands populous and of raising them by the most natural and eligible means to their full value, it is true that such encouragement within the Company's bounds might in it's consequences be prejudicial to the Nabob's interest by drawing from the circumjacent countries many of the inhabitants and rendering even those who remained less satisfied with their condition . . . This it is as we conceive (added to the desire of spreading his influence as wide as possible) which has principally induced the Nabob (for we consider Vencatachilam only as a name) to farm of the Company the late acquired Countries at a rent so far exceeding what you know to be their worth, if this be so, then the Nabob's purpose cannot be any way so effectually accomplished as by using the same oppressive measures which are so generally countenanced under the Country Governments'. As interference to protect the inhabitants will involve disputes

with the Nawab, the Company would have preferred the countries being put under any other good renter. More than the countries can fairly pay should not be sought, for that will only lead to the Company's loss in the long run. However Venkatachalam's lease for three years must be allowed to stand, for fear of giving a disgust to the Nawab; but the utmost care must be exerted to prevent oppression. For the reasons already mentioned, the Company is also displeased that on Nayanar's failure, the Poonamallee country was given to Mooperaul Krishnayya, who is Venkatachalam's agent, so that that farm (as well as the betel and tobacco farm) has also been given into the Nawab's hands.

In regard to the losses incurred by the failure of the renters, the Company confiding in the Council's faithful administration supposes that all proper measures have been taken.

The proposal to repair the tanks in the Company's territories is much approved; but proper surveys should first be made to avoid improper expenditure. It would have been wise to survey the tanks in the country rented to Venkatachalam and which he has agreed to put into repair; as matters stand, no serious repairs can be expected there.

The method of selling the farms at outcry has sometimes placed them in the hands of desperate persons who did not hesitate to outbid men of character; the permission already given to sell by receiving sealed tenders is repeated and confirmed; but a fixed rule must be made to give timely notice of what is being done, so that all may have an opportunity of making tenders.

The allowance made to the farmer of arrack at Fort St. George is approved in the circumstances; but as farmers do usually reap all the benefits of a favourable change, so they ought in general to bear the burden of an unfavourable one. In particular cases however 'we shall never be backward in shewing them all reasonable indulgence', on condition that severe examples are made of persons who attempt to secure favours by improper means.

At the instance of Paul Benfield's friends, and their favourable representations of his abilities, the Company has added his name to the list of writers appointed this season.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX

Abstract of the lists of the Piece-goods investment to be sent home

	1755–1756.	1756–1757.	1757–1758.	1758–1759.
	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.
Allejars	500	500	...	...
Beteellas—				
Ordinary	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Oringal	1,500	2,000	2,000	2,000
Pulicat	1,700	2,500	2,500	2,500
Cambrick	...	...	1,400	1,100
Chintz (moorees)—				
Ordinary	2,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Fine	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
Callawapores	1,200	1,200	500	500
Dimities, Fort St. David	...	...	...	...
Ginghams—				
Small white	...	...	...	...
Blue striped	1,000	200	200	200
Red striped	500	200	200	200
Clouded	...	...	...	...
Chequered	...	...	...	...
Superfine-coloured	...	...	...	...
Izarees—				
Fine	500	500	...	...
Superfine	300	...	...	...
Lampasses	400	500	500	500
Longcloth—				
Ordinary	80,000	80,000	60,000	50,000
Middling	30,000	30,000	20,000	20,000
Fine	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
Superfine	800	800	800	800
Blue	3,000	1,500	1,500	1,500
Moorees—				
Ordinary	5,000	6,000	5,000	4,000
Fine	3,000	2,500	2,500	2,000
Superfine	1,000	800	800	800
Romals—				
Sootie	3, 00	4,000	3,000	3,000
Blue	7,000	8,000	7,000	7,000
Pulicat	...	...	...	...
Masulipatam	3,000	3,000	2,000	1,500
Sastracundees, bright	3,000	4,000	2,500	2,000
Salampores—				
Ordinary	60,000	60,000	30,000	20,000
Middling	40,000	40,000	25,000	25,000
Fine	8,000	8,000	6,000	8,000
Sarrasses	...	...	...	...
Sicashes, fine	1 bale.	...	...	...
Succatoons, fine	200	200	200	...
Dungaree	...	...	4 bales.	2 or 3 bales.

I.

by the shippings returning in the seasons 1755–1756 *to* 1764–1765.

1759–1760.	1760–1761.	1761–1762.	1762–1763.	1763–1764.	1764–1765.
Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces
	...	...	...	...	...
	2,000	1,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
	2,000	2,000	2,000	1,000	1,000
	2,500	2,000	2,000	700	700
	1,500	1,100	900	400	400
	1,000	1,000	1,000	500	500
	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
	500	500	500	200	200
	...	...		...	..
	...	...	...	...	100
	200	200	200	200	200
	300	300	200	200	200
	...	...	...	...	...
	...	...	...	...	...
	...	...	...	...	...
	...	...	...	...	100
	...	...	400	...	...
(*List wanting.*)	500	500	500	500	500
	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
	800	800	800	800	800
	4,000	4,000	15,000	10,000	10,000
	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000
	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500
	800	800	800	800	800
	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000
	...	...	...	...	...
	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000
	8,000	8,000	8,000	8,000	8,000
					500 (blue)
	...	...	...	...	...
	...	...	...	...	...
	...	...	...	...	200 (blue)
					500 (white)
	...	...	...	...	...

APPENDIX II.

Abstract of the manifests of private silver and gold for Madras, by the shippings of 1754–55 *to* 1763–64.

Year.	Silver.	Gold.
	oz.	oz.
1754–55	74,853	2,382
1755–56	18,813	1,847
1756–57	2,790	709
1757–58	17,303	3,542
1758–59	8,173	1,405
1759–60	1,500	...
1760–61	53,015	7,408
1761–62	2,898	...
1762–63	1,348	...
1763–64	32,245	...

APPENDIX III.

Lists of persons permitted to proceed to India by the shippings of 1754-55 to 1763-64.

Date.	Name.	Capacity.	Where going.	By what ship.
		1754-55.		
February 3, 1755.	Ambrose Perry ...	Mariner	Fort St. George.	*Rhoda.*
	Michael Salomons	Passenger (Moses' servant).	Do.	*Eastcourt.*
	Hannah Darker ...	Passenger (Mrs. Morse's servant).	Do.	*Bombay Castle.*
	Alexander Wishart.	Passenger (Col. Scott's servant).	Do.	*Duke of Dorset.*
	Jane Morse ...	Passenger ...	Do.	*Bombay Castle.*
	Elizabeth Morse ...	Do. ...	Do.	*Do.*
	Frances Berriman.	Do. ...	Do.	*Do.*
	Amelia Hopkins ...	Do. ...	Do.	*Eastcourt.*
	Joseph Moses ...	Free merchant ...	Do.	*Do.*
	James Duff ...	Do. ...	Do.	*Drake.*
	and 14 others for Bengal, Bombay and Bencoolen.			
		1755-56.		
December 22, 1755.	Ann Helena Troughton.	Passenger ...	Fort St. George.	*Marlborough.*
	Sarah Hampson ...	Do. ...	Do.	...
	Mary Ann Davis ..	Passenger (Mrs. Campbell's servant).	Do.	*Marlborough.*
	William Davidson.	Mariner ...	Do.	...
	Walton Steevens ...	Free merchant ...	Do.	*Delawar.*
	Mary Campbell ...	Passenger ...	Do.	*Marlborough.*
	Thomas Dugal Campbell.	(Mrs Campbell's son.)	Do.	*Do.*
	Margery Croke ...	Passenger ...	Do.	...
	William Magee .	Free merchant ...	Do.	*Stormont.*
	William Moffat ...	Do. ...	Do.	...
	and 12 others for Bengal, etc.			
February 13, 1756.	Elizabeth Scottney.	Passenger ...	Fort St. George.	*Chesterfield.*
	and 9 others for Bengal, Bombay, etc.			
		1756-57.		
March 28, 1757.	Edward Cotsford ...	Passenger ...	Fort St. George.	*Hawke.*
	Moses Barnett ...	Passenger (De Castro's servant).	Do.	*Boscawen.*
	Mary Halford ...	Passenger ...	Do.	*Elizabeth.*
	Daniel de Castro ...	Free merchant ..	Do.	*Boscawen.*

Lists of persons permitted to proceed to India by the shippings of 1754–55 to 1763–64—cont.

Date.	Name.	Capacity.	Where going.	By what ship.
		1756–57—*cont.*		
March 28, 1757—*cont.*	Joseph Gethin ...	Free merchant ...	Fort St. George.	*Boscawen.*
	Mary Campbell ...	Passenger ...	Do.	*Elizabeth.*
	Thomas Dugal Campbell.	Passenger (Mary Campbell's son).	Do.	*Do.*
	and 19 others to Bengal, Bombay and Bencoolen.			
		1757–58.		
January 28, 1758.	Dorothy Rumbold ..	Passenger ...	Fort St. George.	*Rhoda.*
	George Troutback.	...	Do.	
	Alexander Wishart.	Free merchant ...	Do.	(*Abroad*).
	Samuel Talcott ...	Do. ...	Do.	*Pitt.*
	William Henry Southby.	Do. ...	Do.	*Rhoda.*
	Frances Empson ...	Passenger ...	Do.	*London.*
	Elizabeth Empson.	Do. ...	Do.	*Do.*
	Anne Clive ...	Do. ...	Do.	*Warren.*
	Elizabeth Southby	Do. ...	Do.	*Rhoda.*
March 16, 1758 & May 13, 1758.	Lewis Dencker ...	Do. ...	Do.	*London.*
	Elizabeth Smith ...	Do. ...	Do.	*Warren.*
	Charles Hopkins.	Do. ...	Do.	*Bombay Castle.*
	Robert Sloper ...	Free merchant ...	Do.	*Prince George.*
	and 29 others to Bengal, Bombay, etc.			
		1758–59.		
January 24, 1759.	John Debonaire ...	Free merchant ...	Fort St. George.	*Duke of Dorset.*
	Jane Debonaire (wife).	Passenger ...	Do.	*Do.*
	Susanna Debonaire (daughter).	Do. ...	Do.	*Do.*
	Robert Sloper ...	Free merchant ..	Do.	*Prince George.*
	John Smith ...	Passenger (organist).	Do.	*Calcutta.*
	and 22 others to Bengal, Bombay and Bencoolen.			
March 28, 1759.				
	None to Madras ; and 10 persons to Bengal, Bombay and Bencoolen.			
		1759–60.		
February 19, 1760.	James Robertson ..	Mariner	Fort St. George.	*Warwick.*
	John Holland ...	Passenger ...	Do.	*Onslow.*
	and 7 others to Bengal.			

Lists of persons permitted to proceed to India by the shippings of 1754-55 to 1763-64—cont.

Date.	Name.	Capacity.	Where going.	By what ship.
		1760-61.		
March 16, 1761.	Ann Campbell ...	To her friends ...	Fort George. St.	*Warren.*
	Ann Keene ...	Do. ...	Do.	*Earl of Holdernesse.*
	Caroline Keene ...	Do. ...	Do.	*Do.*
	Catherine Monro ...	Do. ...	Do.	*Warren.*
	Frances Rumbold...	Do. ...	Do.	*Do.*
	John Martyn Goodlad.	To his friends ...	Do.	*Fox.*
	Nathaniel Barlow...	Do. ...	Do.	*Do.*
	Mary Moreland ...	Palk's servant ...	Do.	*Do.*
	William Kent ...	Do. ...	Do.	*Do.*
	William Doble ...	General Lawrence's servant.	Do.	*Do.*
	Thomas Simmons...	Do.	Do.	*Do.*
	Robert Rion ...	Do.	Do.	*Do.*
	Catherine Gordon...	Lieut. Gordon's wife.	Do.	.....
	Warren Moore ...	Free merchant ...	Do.	.....
	Elizabeth Owen ...	To her friends ...	Do.	*Fox.*
	Ann Owen	Do. ...	Do.	*Do.*
	Ann Russell ...	Do. ...	Do.	*Plassey.*
	and 37 others to Bengal, Bombay, etc.			
May 12, 1761.	Mary Whichcott ...	Capt. Whichcott's wife.	Fort George. St.	*Calcutta.*
	Mrs. Palk	Mr. Palk's wife.	Do.	*Fox.*
	and 2 others to Bengal and Bombay.			
		1761-62.		
December 26, 1761.	John Turing ...	Writer	Fort George. St.	*Tilbury.*
	John Simon ...	Do.	Do.	*Do.*
	Yelverton Dennis...	Ensign	Do.	*Do.*
	John Smith ...	Cadet	Do.	*Do.*
	James Bucknall ...	Do.	Do.	*Do.*
	Francisca and her child.	Mrs. Mackay's black servant.	Do.	*Do.*
	and 33 others to Bengal, Bombay, etc.			
May 12, 1761.	Mary Whichcott ...	Capt. Whichcott's wife.	Fort George. St.	*Calcutta.*
	Mrs. Palk	Mr. Palk's wife...	Do.	*Fox.*
	and 6 others to Bengal, Bombay, etc.			
January 28, 1762.	James Henry Casamaijor.	Writer	Fort George. St.	*Clinton.*
	James Hamilton ...	Do.	Do.	*Essex.*
	Walter Goddard ...	Do.	Do.	*Do.*
	Edward Middleton.	Do.	Do.	*Clinton.*
	John Fortune ...	Cadet	Do.	*Essex.*
	John Seagrave ...	Do.	Do.	*Do.*
	Rebecca Casamaijor.	To proceed to her friends.	Do.	*Clinton.*
	Jane Dawson ...	Do.	Do.	*Do.*
	and 8 others to Bengal, etc.			

Lists of persons permitted to proceed to India by the shippings of 1754-55 to 1763-64—cont.

Date.	Name.	Capacity.	Where going.	By what ship.
		1761-62—*cont.*		
February 16, 1762.	Edward Monckton.	Writer	Fort St. George.	*Grosvenor.*
	Edward Saunders ...	Do.	Do.	*Do.*
	Charles Hodson ...	Cadet	Do.	*Do.*
	John Cotgrave ...	Do.	Do.	*Do.*
	Thomas Beaver ...	Ensign	Do.	*Do.*
	Thomas Mitchelson.	Mariner	Do.	*Houghton.*
	Catherine Cass ..	To proceed to her friends.	Do.	*Do.*
	Catherine Hepburn.	Do.	Do.	*Do.*
	Catherine Williamson.	Do.	Do.	*Grosvenor.*
	Clarissa Williamson.	Do.	Do.	*Do.*
	Elizabeth Quinchant.	Do.	Do.	*Houghton.*
	Nathalia	Debonaire's black servant.	Do.	*Grosvenor.*
	and 12 others to Bengal, Bombay, etc.			
March 16, 1762.	Thomas Mitchelson.	Mariner	Fort St. George.	*Houghton.*
	Thomas Davie ...	Do.	Do.	*Drake.*
	Jane Dawson ...	To proceed to her friends.	Do.	*Clinton.*
	Amelia Campbell ...	Do.	Do.	*Houghton.*
	Catherine Cass ...	Do.	Do.	*Do.*
	Catherine Hepburn.	Do.	Do.	*Do.*
	Catherine Williamson.	Do.	Do.	*Grosvenor.*
	Clarissa Williamson.	Do.	Do.	*Do.*
	Elizabeth Quinchant.	Do.	Do.	*Houghton.*
	Thomas White ...	Free merchant ...	Do.	*Do.*
	James Robertson ..	Do. ...	Do.	(*Abroad.*)
	Kenneth Mackenzie.	Do. ...	Do.	*Hardwicke.*
	Rebecca Casamaijor	To proceed to her friends.	Do.	*Clinton.*
	George Stratton ...	Returns to his station.	Do.	*Drake.*
	and 39 others to Bengal, Bombay, etc.			
March 9, 1762.	Thomas Capps ...	Cadet	Fort St. George.	*Hardwicke.*
	Sydenham Dixon ...	Do.	Do.	*Do.*
	Kenneth Mackenzie.	Free merchant ..	Do.	*Do.*
	Toby	Powney's black fellow.	Do.	*Do.*
	and 22 others to Bengal.			

Lists of persons permitted to proceed to India by the shippings of 1754-55 to 1763-64—cont.

Date.	Name.	Capacity.	Where going.	By what ship.
		1762-63.		
December 24, 1762.	Charles Desvoeux ...	Writer	Fort George. St.	*Hawke.*
	Cotton Bowerbank Dent.	Do.	Do.	*Do.*
	William Maitland...	Do.	Do.	*Falmouth.*
	Charles Raitt ...	Do.	Do.	*Deptford.*
	Robin Powney ...	Free merchant ...	Do.	*Neptune.*
	Truelove Parley ...	Passenger ...	Do.	*Do.*
	Ann Home ...	Do. ...	Do.	*Deptford.*
	Catherine Faizan ...	Do. ...	Do.	*Neptune.*
	and 31 others to Bengal.			
May 17, 1763.	Robert Brooke ...	Mariner	Fort George. St	*Pitt.*
	Robert Whitchere...	Do.	Do.	*Do.*
	William Vertue ...	Do.	Do.	*Do.*
	Ann Holme ...	Passenger ...	Do.	*Deptford.*
	Elizabeth Marsh ...	Do. ...	Do.	*Lord Clive.*
	Truelove Parley ..	Do. ..	Do.	*Neptune.*
	Catherine Faizan ...	Do. ...	Do.	*Do.*
	Alexander Tod ...	Free merchant ...	Do.	*Pitt.*
	Robert Boyd ...	Do. ...	Do.	*Do.*
	Robin Powney ...	Do. ...	Do.	*Neptune.*
	William Singleton.	Do. ...	Do.	...
	George Savage ...	Passenger ...	Do	*Pigot.*
	Martha Pybus ...	Do. ...	Do.	*Lord Clive.*
	Richard Powney ...	Do. ..	Do.	*Pitt.*
	Robert Villiers Fitzgerald.	Captain	Do.	*Do.*
	Andrew Willson ...	Lieutenant ...	Do.	*Do.*
	William Rogers ...	Ensign	Do.	*Do.*
	John Candler ...	Do.	Do.	*Do.*
	Charles Brady ...	Do.	Do.	*Do.*
	and 91 others to Bengal, Bombay, etc.			
April 2, 1763.	Thomas Dyneley ...	Writer	Fort George. St.	*Lord Clive.*
	Martha Pybus ...	Returns to	Do.	*Do.*
	Elizabeth Marsh ...	Passenger ...	Do.	*Do.*
	William Maitland ...	Writer	Do.	*Pigot.*
	Robert Barclay ...	Do.	Do.	*Do.*
	Robert Maunsell ...	Do.	Do.	*Do.*
	William Cuming ...	Returns to his station.	Do.	*Do.*
	George Savage ...	Passenger ...	Do.	*Do.*
	and 39 others to Bengal, etc.			
		1763-64.		
June 1, 1764.	Joseph Dias Fernandes.	Free merchant ...	Fort George. St.	*Northumberland.*
	Samuel Moses, Junior.	Do. ..	Do.	*Duke of Gloucester.*

Lists of persons permitted to proceed to India by the shippings of 1754–55 to 1763–64—cont.

Date.	Name.	Capacity.	Where going.	By what ship.
		1763–64—*cont.*		
June 1, 1764 —*cont.*	Eliazer Moses ...	Free merchant ...	Fort St. George.	*Duke of Gloucester.*
	John de Morgan ...	Passenger ...	Do.	*Earl of Lincoln.*
	John Brasier ...	Mariner ...	Do.	*Solebay.*
	Thomas Breton ...	Do. ...	Do.	*Northumberland.*
	Southwell Trotter...	Do. ...	Do.	*Do.*
	Charlotte Rule ..	Passenger ..	Do.	*Vansittart.*
	Issac Berend Goldsmith.	Passenger (Moses' servant).	Do.	*Duke of Gloucester.*
	George Mainwaring Kinderdine.	Surgeon ...	Do.	*Do.*
	and 98 others to Bengal, Bombay, etc.			
January 2, 1764.	James Taylor, Junior.	Writer	Fort St. George.	*Worcester.*
	James Hodges ...	Do.	Do.	*Caernarvon.*
	George Westcott ...	Do.	Do.	*Devonshire.*
	Samuel Roberts ...	Cadet (Engineer).	Do.	*Worcester.*
	and 14 others to Bengal and China.			
February 13, 1764.	Joseph Dias Fernandes.	Free merchant ...	Fort St. George.	*Northumberland.*
	Solomon Salomons.	Fernandes' servant.	Do.	*Do.*
	Samuel Moses, Junior.	Free merchant ...	Do.	*Duke of Gloucester.*
	Eliazer Moses ...	Do. ...	Do.	*Do.*
	Thomas Fletcher ..	Captain of Infantry.	Do.	*Lord Hollond.*
	Eccles Nixon ...	Do.	Do.	*Northumberland.*
	Thomas Breton ...	Mariner ...	Do.	*Do.*
	Isaac Berend Goldsmith.	Moses' servant ...	Do.	*Duke of Gloucester.*
	Samuel Barnes ...	Lieutenant ...	Do.	*Northumberland.*
	and 13 others to Bengal and China.			
March 2, 1764.	Henry Crawford ...	Writer	Fort St. George.	*Earl of Lincoln.*
	Henry Eden ...	Do.	Do.	*Duke of Albany.*
	Edward Froud ...	Do.	Do.	*Earl of Lincoln.*
	Paul Benfield ...	Civil Architect and Asst. Engineer.	Do.	*Duke of Albany.*
	Mitchelburne Knox.	Captain of Infantry.	Do.	*Earl of Lincoln.*
	James Leighton ...	Lieutenant ...	Do.	*Do.*
	John de Morgan ...	Passenger ...	Do.	*Do.*
	Charlotte Rule ...	Do.	Do.	*Vansittart.*
	and 31 others to Bengal, etc.			

APPENDIX IV.

Abstract of the lists of recruits, etc., sent out to Madras by the shippings of 1754-55 *to* 1763-64.

Date.	Ship.	Number.	Remarks.
		1754-55.	
December 3, 1754 ...	*Bombay Castle*...	103	Henry Trepsack, Lieutenant (age 49). William Elliot, Ensign (age 28). William Robson, Cadet (age 20).
December ⅗, 1754 ...	*Rhoda*	105	Dugal Campbell, Lieutenant (age 25). Charles Kerr, Ensign (age 24). Alexander Tuite, Cadet (age 19). William Gibbons, Sergeant (age 27).
December 3, 1754 ...	*Prince of Wales.*	106	John Reith, Lieutenant (age 26). Jonathan Brooke, Ensign (age 21). Ross Lang, Cadet (age 22).
December 3, 1754 ...	*Hardwicke* ...	100	Samuel Sampson, Lieutenant (age 28). Charles Todd, Ensign (age 26). Johan Balthazar Houster, Cadet (age 19).
March 28, 1755 ...	*Dodington* ...	95	Charles Prissick, Lieutenant (age 30). Alexander Cameron, Lieutenant (age 28). Æneas Sutherland, Lieutenant (age 28). Charles Hurton, Cadet (age 22). Andrew Nesbitt, Cadet (age 22). Robert Campbell, Cadet (age 21).
		509	
		1755-56.	
October 14, 1755 ...	*Delawar* ...	33	
December 19, 1755 ...	*Stormont* ...	49	Thomas Stevenson, Ensign (age 30).
December 19, 1755 ...	*Godolphin* ...	52	Thomas Prichard, Cadet (age 21).
December 6, 1755 ...	*Marlborough* ..	66	Richard Wilson, Cadet (age 26).
		200	
		1756-57.	
December 28, 1756 ...	*Princess Augusta.*	46	Stephen Villarett, Cadet (age 33). Abraham Faizan, Cadet (age 29).
December 27, 1756 ...	*Tavistock* ...	50	Abraham Bonjour, Cadet (age 26). David Antony Moutach, Cadet (age 26).
March 25, 1757 ...	*Fox*	...	David Baron de Vasserot, Captain of troop of horse (age 31). Frederick William Elersen, Second master of troop of horse (age 50). Louis de Dardagny, Cadet (age 28). John Parley, farrier (age 33).
March 25, 1757 ...	*Grantham* ...	...	Sir William Hope Bart., Cadet (age 28).
		96	Louis Braun, Cadet (age 37).

Abstract of the lists of recruits, etc.—cont.

Date.	Ship.	Number.	Remarks.
	1756-57—*cont.*		
March 25, 1757—*cont.*	*Worcester* ...	...	Pierre Anthony Veillion, Cadet (age 20). John Bourne, Cadet (age 24).
	Ilchester ...	...	Etienne D'In, Cadet (age 22).
	Elizabeth ...	...	William Phillips, Cadet (age 22). John Desplans, Cadet (age 19).
	1757-58.		
	No list.		
	1758-59.		
January 22, 1759 ...	*Royal George* ...	60	Thomas Fitzgerald, Ensign (age 21). John Evans, Ensign (age 24). James James, Cadet (age 25).
	1759-60.		
December 7, 1759 ...	*Onslow* ...	62	John Eyre, Cadet (age 22). Samuel Juce Merchant, Cadet (age 21).
	No lists for the subsequent years.		

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